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1900 Royal Arch Masons

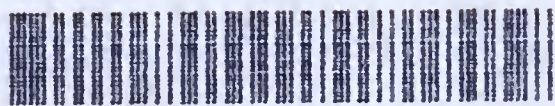


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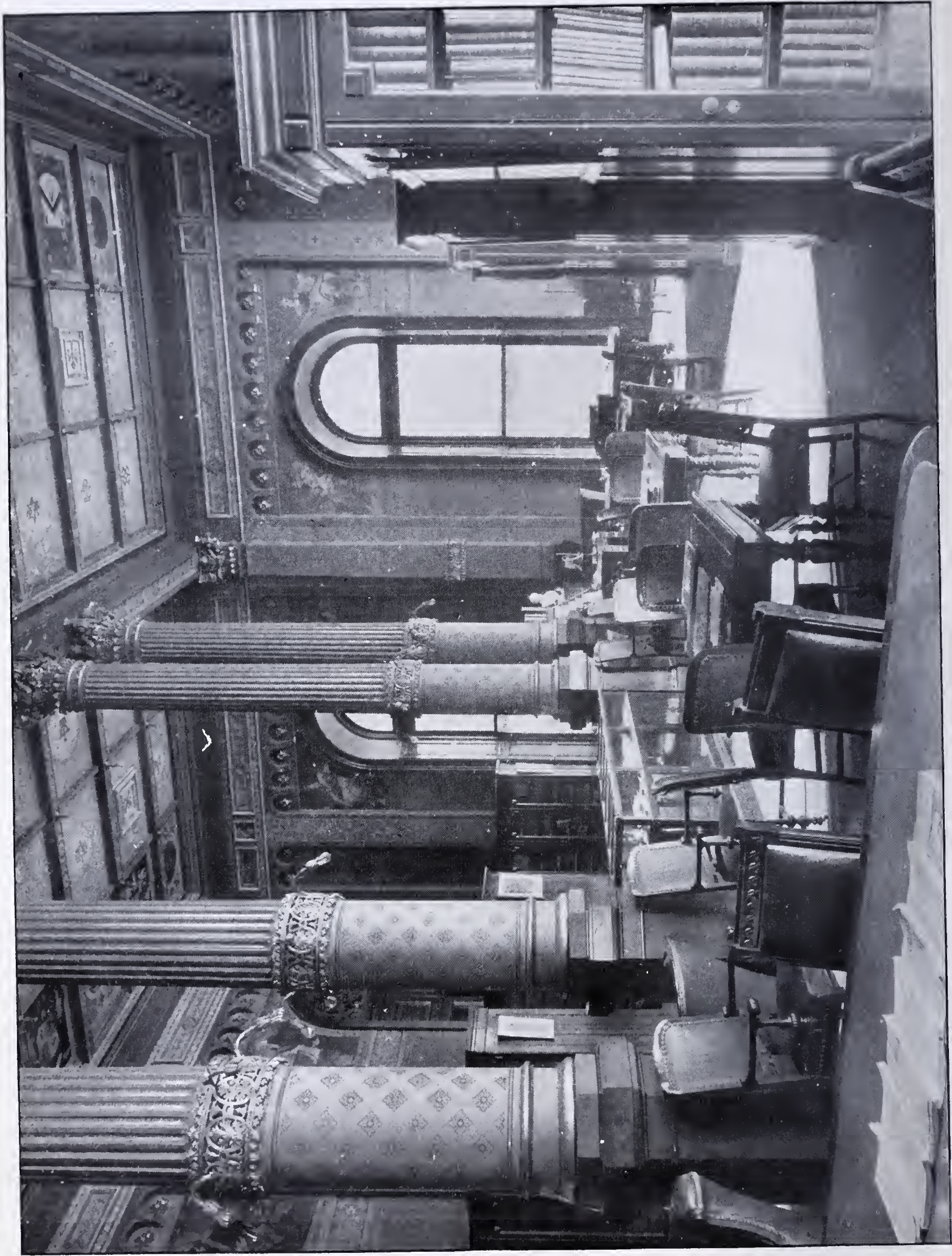
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THE LIBRARY, MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA.

PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE GRAND
HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF PENNSYLVANIA
AND
MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 27, 1900,
BEING ITS ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH YEAR.

PHILADELPHIA
PRINTED FOR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA BY
MACCALLA & COMPANY INC., 237 DOCK ST.
1901.



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Matthias W. Henderson

M. E. Grand High Priest.
1887 - 1888.

THE GRAND
HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1795-1900.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

MARCH 8, A. D. 1900, A. I. 2430.

PRESENT:

- Comp. MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, *M. E. Grand High Priest.*
" EDWARD B. SPENCER, . . . *M. E. Grand King.*
" HENRY OSCAR KLINE, . . . *M. E. Grand Scribe.*
" JOSHUA L. LYTE, . . . *acting M. E. Grand Treasurer.*
" CHARLES CARY, . . . *M. E. Grand Secretary.*
" REV. HORACE F. FULLER, . . . *Grand Chaplain.*
" FRANK B. WICKERSHAM, *as Grand Captain of the Host.*
" CARL A. SUNDSTROM, . . . *Grand Principal Sojourner.*
" FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY, . . . *Grand Royal Arch Captain.*
" FRANKLIN P. MASON, . . . *Grand Master of the Third Vail.*
" ADAM H. SCHMEHL, . . . *Grand Master of the Second Vail.*
" BENJAMIN EISEMAN, . . . *Grand Master of the First Vail.*
" GEORGE B. WELLS, . . . *Grand Marshal.*
" JOHN O'DONNEL, . . . *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
" FORREST E. GORDON, . . . *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
" J. HENRY WILLIAMS, . . . *as Grand Pursuivant.*
" WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, . . . *Grand Tyler.*

District Deputy Grand High Priests :—Companions WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, STEPHEN H. APPLETON, JOHN H. SHOPP, ALBERT R. HOOVER, DANIEL Z. WALKER, JAMES H. CODDING, DANIEL B. ELSE, MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, JOHN W. FARNSWORTH, REUBEN A. ZIMMERMAN.

Past Grand High Priests :—M. E. Companions GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

Grand Representatives.

Comp. EDWARD J. JAMES, of Grand Chapter of Alabama.

- " WILLIAM J. KELLY, of Grand Chapter of Arkansas.
- " J. SIMPSON AFRICA, of Grand Chapter of California.
- " JAMES S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and North Carolina.
- " DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
- " GEORGE E. WAGNER, of Grand Mark Lodge of England.
- " H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.
- " GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
- " RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Grand Chapter of Indian Territory.
- " JOSHUA L. LYTE, of Grand Chapter of Iowa.
- " SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.
- " EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
- " J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
- " MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, of Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.
- " GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
- " EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
- " CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.
- " MICHAEL W. JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.
- " EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
- " ELLSWORTH H. HULTS, of Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.
- " JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
- " HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
- " WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.

Chapters No. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 152, 161, 169, 173, 174, 175, 183, 185, 190, 194, 197, 199, 201, 202, 203, 208, 209, 219, 220, 222, 223, 224, 226, 228, 232, 233, 234, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 243, 245, 248, 250, 251, 252, 255, 256, 258, 262, 268, 271, 273, 277. (51 Chapters.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at seven o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, December 7, 1899, and of the Annual Grand Communication held on Wednesday, December 27, 1899, were separately read and approved.

Copies of proposed Amendments to By-Laws were received from Chapters No. 169 and 243, which were referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, March 2, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Comp. Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Comp. Charles Cary, from November 20, 1899, to February 28, 1900, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing:

Balance on hand, November 20, 1899,	.	.	.	2,317 68
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RECEIPTS.

From Chapters and Mark Lodges,	.	.	.	5,055 75	
Certificates, Dispensations and Constitution,	.	.	.	12 00	5,067 75
				<hr/>	<hr/>
					7,385 43

EXPENDITURES.

For Rent,	750 00	
Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests,	620 95	
Salaries,	427 50	
Care of Organ,	40 00	
Printing, Postage and Stationery,	40 00	
Rent of Safe,	3 00	
Premium on Grand Treasurer's Bond,	20 00	1,901 45
		<hr/>
Balance on hand, February 28, 1900,		\$5,483 98

Fraternally submitted,
(Signed)

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
W. M. DONALDSON,
JACOB W. JACKSON,
Committee on Finance.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report, which was received, and the accompanying Resolution was, on motion, adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, March 8, 1900.

To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

Your Committee on By-Laws beg to report that they have examined the Amendments to By-Laws referred to them, and offer the following Resolution:

Resolved:—that the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters No. 169 and 243 be approved.

(Signed)

EDGAR A. TENNIS,
For the Committee.

The Committee on Printing and Publishing reported as follows :

PHILADELPHIA, March 8, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS :—Your Committee on Printing and Publishing report that, since the last Communication of the Grand Chapter, they have asked and received bids for printing the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter for the year 1899, and awarded the contract to the Thomson Printing Company, who will finish the work during the present month, and copies will be promptly distributed.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed)

HARRY I. MCINTIRE,

Chairman.

General Returns for 1899 were received from a number of Chapters and Mark Lodges, which were ordered to be entered and filed.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the death of Grand Chaplain Companion REV. THOMAS B. ANGELL, D.D., and directed the reading of the following Memorial :

THE REV. THOMAS BARHAM ANGELL, D.D.

Born in London, England, October 20, 1859.

Came to Canada at the age of 18.

Educated at Trinity College, Toronto.

Received from the same institution, upon examination, the degree of Bachelor of Divinity in 1893, and the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1897.

Took holy orders and was ordained Deacon July 20, 1884, and Priest July 26, 1885, by the Rt. Rev. Arthur Sweatman, D.D., Bishop of Toronto. Served first as Missionary at Haliburton, and then as Curate of St. John's Church, Peterboro, Toronto.

From 1886 to 1888 served as Assistant at St. Stephen's Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

From 1888 to 1900 was Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Harrisburg, Pa.

January 3, 1900, removed to Wilmington, Del., to assume the Rectorship of St. Andrew's Church, was taken with pneumonia, January 5th, and died early Jan. 18th. Was buried Jan. 20, 1900, in the Harrisburg Cemetery.

A widow and two young children survive him.

Was Assistant Secretary of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania for a number of years, and a member of the Standing Committee of the same Diocese. For several years was Archdeacon of the Harrisburg Archdeaconry.

Was elected Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy, and Chaplain of the Lehigh University, South Bethlehem, Pa., in 1897, but declined.

Was initiated in Corinthian Lodge, No. 101, Peterborough, Canada, January 6, 1886, passed February 17, 1886, and raised July 27, 1886.

Admitted to Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, Harrisburg, January 11, 1889; served as Chaplain for several years.

Was a member of Perseverance R. A. Chapter, No. 21, Harrisburg, having received the M. M. M. Degree November 4, the M. E. M. December 2, and the R. A. M. December 12, 1895.

Was knighted February 4, 1897, in Pilgrim Commandery, No. 11, K. T., at Harrisburg, and was its Prelate at the time of his death.

Was Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, F. & A. M., 1893-99, inclusive, and at the time of his death was Grand Chaplain of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

A Petition was received from Companion J. W. S., a member of Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, at the time of the sequestration of the Warrant of said Chapter (February 4, 1873)—asking the Grand Chapter to restore him to "Good Masonic Standing." The Petition was accompanied by a Resolution of Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, recommending the same to the favorable consideration of the Grand Chapter.

On motion, duly made and seconded, it was

Resolved :—that the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that Companion J. W. S. be restored to Good Masonic Standing.

On motion of Companion William J. Kelly, it was

Resolved:—that The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, in order to testify their appreciation of the eminent services to it rendered by Samuel C. Perkins, George E. Wagner, William C. Hamilton, Hibbert P. John, George W. Kendrick, Jr., Matthias H. Henderson, James S. Barber, Alexander H. Morgan, Edgar A. Tennis, Ezra S. Bartlett and Richard M. Johnson, have prepared a Past Grand High Priest's Jewel of suitable design for each of the above-named Companions, and that said Jewel, after approval by this Grand Chapter, be adopted as the standard for presentation to the future retiring Grand High Priests; and that a Committee of five be appointed to perfect the same and report to this Grand Chapter at its next Communication.

The M. E. Grand High Priest was pleased to appoint Companions William J. Kelly, J. Simpson Africa, J. Henry Williams, Edward B. Spencer and Charles Cary, as a Committee to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Communications were received from several Grand Chapters announcing the death of honored Companions, as follows:

M. E. Companion HORACE SPENCER WINSLOW, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa. Died, December 11, 1899.

M. E. Companion JAMES HENRY WELSH, Past Grand High Priest of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Connecticut. Died, December 16, 1899.

M. E. Companion ISAAC LARUE JOHNSON, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand R. A. Chapter, District of Columbia. Died, December 28, 1899.

M. E. Companion ROBERT H. HENRY, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter R. A. M. of Nebraska. Died, February 1, 1900.

The Grand Chapter was "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Mark Degree.

A Lodge of Mark Master Masons was opened, and the Degree of Mark Master Mason was exemplified.

The Lodge of Mark Master Masons was closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at nine o'clock and twenty minutes, P. M.

CHARLES CARY,
Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

JUNE 7, 1900, A. I. 2430.

PRESENT:

Comp. EDWARD B. SPENCER, .	. <i>M. E. Grand King, acting M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
" HENRY OSCAR KLINE, .	. <i>M. E. Grand Scribe, acting M. E. Grand King.</i>
" JAMES S. BARBER, .	. <i>M. E. Past Grand High Priest, acting M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON, .	. <i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" CHARLES CARY, .	. <i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>
" REV. HENRY S. GETZ, .	. <i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
" REV. HORACE F. FULLER, .	. <i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
" REV. THOMPSON P. EGE, .	. <i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
" EDWIN H. COANE, .	. <i>Grand Captain of the Host.</i>
" CARL A. SUNDSTROM, .	. <i>Grand Principal Sojourner.</i>
" FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY, .	. <i>Grand Royal Arch Captain.</i>
" FRANKLIN P. MASON, .	. <i>Grand Master of the Third Vail.</i>
" ADAM H. SCHMEHL, .	. <i>Grand Master of the Second Vail.</i>
" BENJAMIN EISEMAN, .	. <i>Grand Master of the First Vail.</i>
" J. HENRY WILLIAMS, .	. <i>as Grand Marshal.</i>
" JOHN O'DONNELL, .	. <i>Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.</i>
" FORREST E. GORDON, .	. <i>Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.</i>
" FRANK M. HIGHLEY, .	. <i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
" WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, .	. <i>Grand Tyler.</i>

District Deputy Grand High Priests :—Companions JOHN B. SPRENKEL, ALBERT R. HOOVER, CHRISTIAN A. SEIDEL, DANIEL Z. WALKER, JOHN C. WALLACE, JOHN W. FARNSWORTH, ELLIS H. DOAN, SAMUEL S. YOHE.

Past Grand High Priests:—M. E. Companions GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EZRA S. BARTLETT, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

Grand Representatives :

- Comp. EDWARD J. JAMES, of the Grand Chapter of Alabama.
 “ WILLIAM J. KELLY, of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas.
 “ J. SIMPSON AFRICA, of the Grand Chapter of California.
 “ THOMAS R. PATTON, of the Grand Chapters of Canada and Scotland.
 “ JAMES S. BARBER, of the Grand Chapters of Delaware and N. Carolina.
 “ DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of the Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
 “ GEORGE E. WAGNER, of the Grand Mark Lodge of England.
 “ H. OSCAR KLINE, of the Grand Chapter of Florida.
 “ FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of the Grand Chapter of Indiana.
 “ RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of the Grand Chapter of Indian Territory.
 “ JOSHUA L. LYTE, of the Grand Chapter of Iowa.
 “ ALEXANDER McCUNE, of the Grand Chapter of Maine.
 “ J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of the Grand Chapter of Maryland.
 “ ROBERT J. LINDEN, of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.
 “ EZRA S. BARTLETT, of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
 “ CHARLES CARY, of the Grand Chapter of New York.
 “ SAMUEL S. YOHE, of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.
 “ EDWARD B. SPENCER, of the Grand Chapter of Oregon.
 “ JOSEPH M. WIATT, of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
 “ HIBBERT P. JOHN, of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
 “ MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, of the Grand Chapter of Victoria.
 “ JOHN C. WALLACE, of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

Chapters No. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 152, 169, 170, 173, 175, 183, 190, 196, 197, 199, 201, 202, 203, 208, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 232, 233, 234, 237, 239, 240, 243, 244, 245, 247, 248, 250, 251, 255, 256, 262, 266, 267, 268, 271, 277. (45 Chapters.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Due Form* at seven o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, March 8, 1900, were read and approved.

By-Laws were received from Chapters No. 189 and 233, and Amendments to By-Laws from Chapters No. 174, 178, 242 and 256, which were referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, June 1, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles Cary, from February 28, 1900, to May 31, 1900, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing:

Balance on hand, February 28, 1900,	.	.	.	5,483 98
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RECEIPTS.

From Chapters and Mark Lodges,	375 60	
Interest on Masonic Loan,	400 00	
Interest on Deposits,	.	.	.	.	50 14	
Dispensations, Constitutions, etc.,	.	.	.	.	23 00	848 74
Total,	.	.	.	.		6,332 72

EXPENDITURES.

Salaries,	.	.	.	.	.	427 50	
Printing, Postage, etc.,	.	.	.	.	.	735 45	
Clothing and Furniture,	.	.	.	.	.	47 10	1,210 05
Balance on hand May 31, 1900,	.	.	.	.	.		\$5,122 67

Fraternally submitted,
(Signed)

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLE,
JACOB W. JACKSON,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
WILLIAM M. DONALDSON,
Committee on Finance.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report, which was received as read, and the accompanying Resolutions were, on motion, adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, June 7, 1900.

To the Grand H. R. A. Chapter of Pennsylvania.

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws respectfully report that they have examined the By-Laws and Amendments to By-Laws submitted to them, and offer the following Resolutions:

Resolved:—that the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 189 be amended as follows:

Article IV, Sec. 5.—Strike out “Paraphernalia” and insert “Clothing.”

Article IV, Sec. 6.—Strike out “as directed by the Chapter” and insert “in Bonds and Mortgages when the same are a first incumbrance, Bonds or Loans of the United States or the State of Pennsylvania, Loans of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, or such securities as are or may be sanctioned by law as a proper investment for trust funds.”

Article IV, Sec. 6.—Strike out “January” and insert “December.”

And that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved:—that the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 223 be amended as follows:

Article III, Sec. 4.—Strike out, on third line, the word “not,” and, on fourth line, the word “and.” On fourth line insert “not” after “are,” and “nor” after “office.”

Article IV, Sec. 6.—Strike out “the next Stated Meeting succeeding.”

Article IX, Sec. 1.—Strike out “ten” and insert “fifteen.”

Article X, Sec. 2.—Strike out “by a resolution of the Chapter.”

And that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved:—that the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 174, 178, 242 and 256 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

EDGAR A. TENNIS,

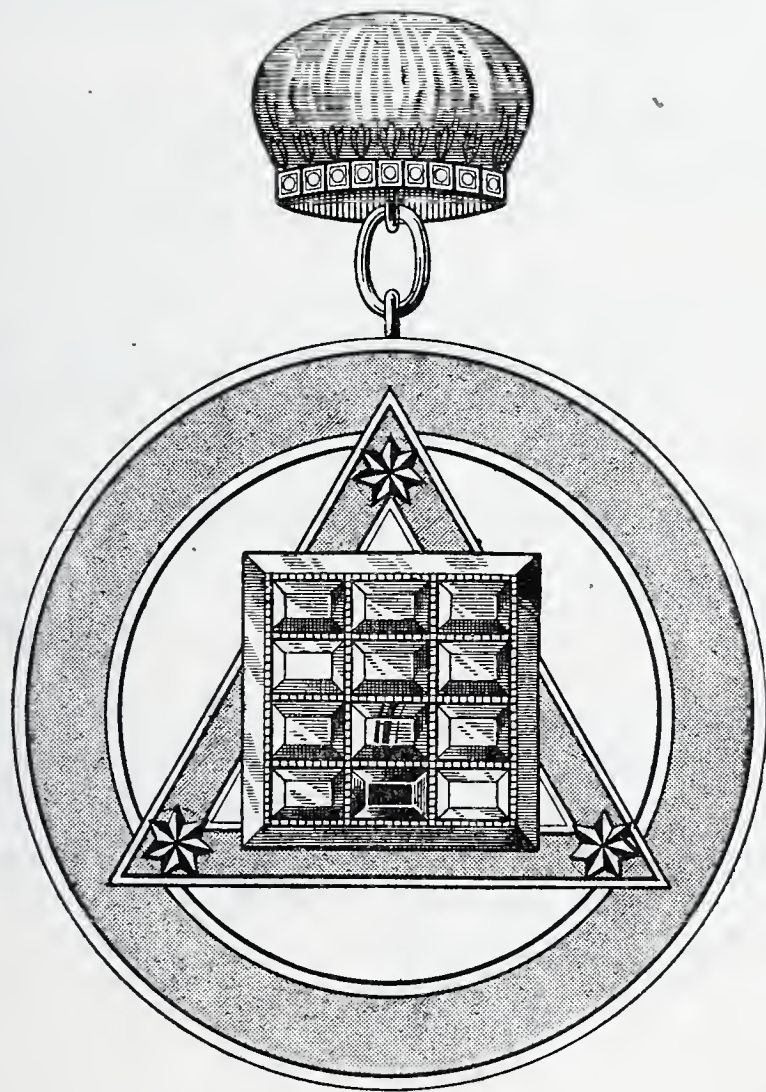
For the Committee.

The Committee appointed at the last Quarterly Communication to prepare a design for Past Grand High Priest's Jewel, submitted the following Report:

PHILADELPHIA, May 30, 1900.

To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

COMPANIONS :—Your Committee appointed to submit a design for a Past Grand High Priest's Jewel and report to this Grand Chapter, and, if adopted by it, to become the standard Jewel for Past Grand High Priests, furnishing each Past Grand High Priest with one upon his retirement from his Station,



beg leave to report that the subject was more difficult to decide than we at first anticipated ; but the Committee called for consultation all the living Past Grand High Priests, with a view of getting their judgment upon the design of a Jewel, in order that they might aid us in adopting that which would be lawful, original and expressive.

After considerable discussion on the part of your Committee, we take pleasure in submitting the accompanying design, in the belief that it will meet all the conditions that may be required, and we feel sure that it is correct in its historical design, and as handsome as any that has been issued by any other Grand Chapter.

The Jewel is a Circle of gold, on which rests a golden Triangle, at each angle of which is a seven-pointed Star, typifying the Hebrew perfect number seven, incapable of division except by a unit. Upon the Triangle rests a Breast-plate of gold, typical of that worn by the High Priest when officiating in the Temple. The Breast-plate to contain fac-similes of the precious gems representing the Twelve Tribes of Israel.

The Jewel is suspended by a gold ring from a Mitre of gold and white enamel, copied from that worn by the Hebrew High Priest when serving in high office in the Temple.

The Jewel will be the exact size of drawing, and made of heavy 18kt. gold. The edges of the Circle and Triangle will be raised, and the stars of gold in relief. All the stones in the Breast-plate will be faceted. The Mitre will be of white enamel to represent silk or linen. The workmanship will be of the very highest character in every detail. The price for the Jewels will be, including leather case and engraving name, etc., on the back, and nine small diamonds in the base of the Mitre, one hundred dollars each.

The Committee offer the following Resolutions :

Resolved :—that the design submitted with this Report be adopted by this Grand Chapter as the standard Jewel for Past Grand High Priests.

Resolved :—that the Committee be and they are hereby authorized and directed to procure a Jewel of this design for each surviving Past Grand High Priest, to wit:—Samuel C. Perkins, George E. Wagner, William C. Hamilton, Hibbert P. John, George W. Kendrick, Jr., Matthias H. Henderson, James S. Barber, Alexander H. Morgan, Edgar A. Tennis, Ezra S. Bartlett and Richard M. Johnson.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

WILLIAM J. KELLY,
J. SIMPSON AFRICA,
J. HENRY WILLIAMS,
EDWARD B. SPENCER,
CHARLES CARY,

Committee.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Report was received and the accompanying Resolutions were adopted.

A Petition was received from a number (17) of Royal Arch Masons for a Warrant for a new Chapter to be held at Connellsville, Fayette County, to be called "Connellsville Royal Arch Chapter."

On motion, the Petition was referred to the Grand Officers, with power to act.

Communications were received from several Grand Chapters, announcing the death of distinguished Companions, as follows:

M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Kansas, announcing the death, on January 28, 1900, of M. E. Companion JACOB DE WITT, Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary; and the death, on April 19, 1900, of M. E. Companion SILAS ELAM SHELDON, Past Grand High Priest.

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York, announcing the death, on February 8, 1900, of M. E. Companion RICHARD H. HUNTINGTON, Past Grand High Priest.

Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa, announcing the death, on March 4, 1900, of Companion EDWARD AUGUSTUS GUILBERT, Past Grand High Priest.

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Arkansas, announcing the death, on March 14, 1900, of M. E. Companion SAMUEL WRIGHT WILLIAMS, Past Grand High Priest.

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, State of Nevada, announcing the death on April 19, 1900, of M. E. Companion THOMAS ALEXANDER MENARY, Past Grand High Priest.

Companions WILLIAM H. GROSSCUP, E. Deputy Grand High Priest, and NOEL R. PARK, E. Grand King of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, were pleased to visit the Grand Chapter, and were received with the customary Honors.

Telegrams were received from the M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Michael William Jacobs, and M. E. Past Grand High Priest, Companion Edgar A. Tennis, regretting that they were unavoidably detained from attendance at this Communication.

The Grand Chapter was "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Most Excellent Master Mason's Degree.

A Lodge of Most Excellent Master Masons was opened, and the Degree of Most Excellent Master Mason was exemplified.

The Lodge of Most Excellent Master Masons was closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

E. Companions William H. Grosscup, Deputy Grand High Priest, and Noel R. Park, Grand King of the

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Jersey, severally addressed the Grand Chapter, extending complimentary and fraternal greetings.

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at nine o'clock, P.M.

CHARLES CARY,

Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

SEPTEMBER 6, A. D. 1900, A. I. 2430.

PRESENT :

- Comp. MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, . *M. E. Grand High Priest.*
 “ EDWARD B. SPENCER, . . . *M. E. Grand King.*
 “ HENRY OSCAR KLINE, . . . *M. E. Grand Scribe.*
 “ THOMAS R. PATTON, . . . *M. E. Grand Treasurer.*
 “ CHARLES CARY, . . . *M. E. Grand Secretary.*
 “ REV. THOMPSON P. EGE, . . . *Grand Chaplain.*
 “ EDWIN H. COANE, . . . *Grand Captain of the Host.*
 “ CARL A. SUNDSTROM, . . . *Grand Principal Sojourner.*
 “ FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY, . . . *Grand Royal Arch Captain.*
 “ FRANKLIN P. MASON, . . . *Grand Master of the Third Vail.*
 “ ADAM H. SCHMEHL, . . . *Grand Master of the Second Vail.*
 “ BENJAMIN EISEMAN, . . . *Grand Master of the First Vail.*
 “ GEORGE B. WELLS, . . . *Grand Marshal.*
 “ J. HENRY WILLIAMS, . . . *as Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
 “ FORREST E. GORDON, . . . *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
 “ FRANK M. HIGHLEY, . . . *Grand Pursuivant.*
 “ WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, . . . *Grand Tyler.*

District Deputy Grand High Priests :—Companions CURTIS G. CAMPBELL, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, STEPHEN H. APPLETON, T. DARLINGTON BUCKWALTER, ALBERT R. HOOVER, JAMES H. CODDING, PETER BARKEY, JOHN W. FARNSWORTH, ELLIS H. DOAN.

Past Grand High Priests :—M. E. Companions GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT.

Grand Representatives.

Comp. EDWARD J. JAMES, of Grand Chapter of Alabama.

“ THOMAS R. PATTON, of Grand Chapters of Canada and Scotland.

“ JAS. S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and North Carolina.

Comp. DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.

- " GEORGE E. WAGNER, of Grand Mark Lodge of England.
- " H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.
- " GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
- " FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.
- " JOSHUA L. LYTE, of Grand Chapter of Iowa.
- " EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
- " J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
- " ROBERT J. LINDEN, of Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.
- " EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
- " CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.
- " MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.
- " EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
- " JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
- " HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
- " LOUIS WAGNER, of Grand Chapter of Vermont.

Chapter No. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 152, 161, 169, 173, 175, 180, 182, 183, 190, 195, 197, 198, 199, 202, 203, 208, 209, 215, 220, 221, 224, 226, 232, 233, 234, 237, 238, 239, 240, 243, 245, 248, 250, 255, 256, 258, 262, 266, 267, 271, 277. (46 Chapters.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at seven o'clock, P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, June 7, 1900, were read and approved.

Copies of proposed By-Laws from Chapter No. 166, and of proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 161, 226 and 258, were received and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

A Communication was received from Corinthian Chapter, No. 224, asking permission to receive and act on a "fourth petition" from Brother H. M. H., a member of Lodge No. 286, who was rejected in said Chapter.

On motion, it was

“*Resolved* :—that the request be granted.”

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, August 31, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS :—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles Cary, from May 31, 1900, to August 31, 1900, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing:

Balance on hand, May 31, 1900,	5,122 67
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RECEIPTS.

From Chapters and Mark Lodges,	1,060 40	
Fee for Warrant,	100 00	
Certificate and Dispensation,	3 00	1,163 40
Total,	.	.	.	.		6,286 07

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest,	.	.	.	210 55	
Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests,	.	.	.	20 30	
Masonic Home of Pennsylvania,	.	.	.	500 00	
Salaries,	.	.	.	427 50	
Printing and Stationery,	.	.	.	9 62	1,167 97
Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer,	.				\$5,118 10

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLE,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
WILLIAM M. DONALDSON,
JACOB W. JACKSON,

Committee.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report, which was received, and the accompanying Resolutions were, on motion, adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, September 6, 1900.

To The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws have examined the By-Laws and Amendments to By-Laws submitted to them, and offer the following:

Resolved:—that the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters No. 161, 226 and 258 be approved.

Resolved:—that the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 166 be *not* approved; the same not being in accordance with the “Form of By-Laws” as prescribed by Grand Chapter.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

EDGAR A. TENNIS,

For the Committee.

The Grand Secretary presented the following Annual Report:

PHILADELPHIA, September 6, 1900.

*To The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania
and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging.*

COMPANIONS:—The Grand Secretary respectfully presents the following Annual Report of the Work and Membership of the Chapters and Mark Lodges of the Jurisdiction for the year ending December 27, 1899.

CHAPTERS.

Membership, December 27, 1898, as per last report, . . .		18,049
· Admitted during the year 1899, . . .	140	
Restored to Membership, . . .	33	
Marked, etc., . . .	1,115	1,288
Total, . . .		19,337

DEDUCT.

Died during the year 1899,	375	
Resigned, or membership ceased,	205	
Suspended or expelled,	338	918
		<hr/>
Membership, December 27, 1899, per returns, . . .		18,419
A net gain of	370	
Rejected during 1899,	69	
Restored to G. M. S.,	20	

MARK LODGES.

Membership, December 27, 1898,		873
Admitted during the year 1899,	1	
Marked,	1	2
		<hr/>
Total,		875

DEDUCT.

Died during the year 1899,	74	
Membership ceased,	5	
Suspended,	10	89
		<hr/>
Membership, December 27, 1899, per returns, . . .		786
Number of Chapters, December 27, 1899,	123	
Number of Mark Lodges,	3	

Fraternally submitted.

CHARLES CARY,

Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

No.	Name.	Marked.	Adm.	D.	Res.	Susp.	Mem.
3	Jerusalem,	14	2	6	3	6	390
21	Perseverance,	3	4	5			160
43		6		9	4		267
52	Harmony,	40	1	24	8	20	967
91	Columbia,	34	1	13	1	6	471
150	Washington,	6	3	1	3	1	114
152	Reading,	11	1	8	3	2	200
159	Schuylkill,	4		1		1	34
161	Union,	3		1	1		149

162	Zerubbabel,	45	4	9	20	2	749
163	LaFayette,	2	3	1	1	3	102
164	Brownsville,	4	2	5	1		66
165	Union,	8		2		1	133
166	Mount Moriah,	11		2	1	2	76
167	Eureka,	2	2	2	1		70
169	Philadelphia,	18	3	4	2	6	177
170	Delta	20	5	3		3	139
171	St. John's,	6	2	1			89
172	Temple,	1	1	3	1		56
173	Easton,	3	2	3			176
174	Northumberland,	4		2			52
175	Keystone,	19	1	15	3	12	460
176	George Washington,						72
177	Tamaqua,	2		1			43
178	Catawissa,	4	1	1		1	22
179	Eureka,	3		4	1		90
180	Warren,	7		1		3	31
181	Lilly,	3		2		4	123
182	Shekinah,	9	2	2		3	203
183	Oriental,	36	1	22	13	18	1,069
185	Lackawanna,	14	4	2	2	8	197
186	Lewistown,	9		2	1		61
187	Oriental,	2					44
189	Mountain,	23		5	1	2	217
190	Norristown,	18		8	2	4	234
191	Solomon,	5	1		1	6	76
192	Urania,	13	1	7			178
193	Duquesne,	39	1	9	18	1	543
194	Tioga,	7	1	2	2		52
195	Portage,	7		2	1	1	112
196	Mountain City,	8		5	1	8	117
197	Weidle,	4		5			83
198	Phoenix,	4		1		3	136
199	Howell,	5	1	3		3	127
200	Columbus,	1		4	1	2	79
201	Standing Stone,	2					87
202	Howell,	3		2			78
203	Allen,	4	1	4		1	158
204	Anthony Wayne,						30
205	Factoryville,	3					34

206	Harmony,	29	1	1			91
207	Aaron,			1			48
208	Germantown,	5		2	2	4	148
209	Samuel C. Perkins,	5					67
210	Great Bend,	3	1	1		2	34
211	Venango,	8		4			122
212	Mound,	7		1			126
214	Valley,	7		2			72
215	Temple.	11	3	1	3	7	226
216	Zinzendorf,	5		2		4	81
217	Allegheny,	44	8	10		33	509
218	Bloomsburg,	2	1		1		67
219	Griscom,	3	1		1		66
220	Fort Washington,			2			28
221	Tremont,	2		1	2	7	52
222	Lycoming,	18	3	1	1		201
223	Oxford,	3		2	1	1	56
224	Corinthian,	2		3	2		77
225	Jefferson,	12	1		1		131
226	Siloam,	5		4	1	1	136
227	Emporium	12	1	2			64
228	Clearfield,	12		1		5	122
229	Newtown,			2	27		
230	Elk,	5	7	1			86
232	St. John,	15	1	11	1	6	257
233	Kensington,	13	4	14			450
234	Media,	1		1	1		66
235	Occidental,				2	5	116
236	Oil City,	7					98
237	Excelsior,	4		1		18	364
238	Newport,	1				1	49
239	Danville,	2					44
240	Palestine,	22	3	5	2	1	354
241	Bellefonte,	4		1			66
242	Pittston,	4		1		4	60
243	T. B. Freeman,	19	2	21	2	22	637
244	Norman,	2	1				100
245	Abington,	4			1	1	58
246	Warrior Run,	8					48
247	Orient,	13		1	1	1	89
248	Temple,	4	1	1			150

249	Monongahela,	18	3	4		1	71
250	Corinthian,	23	2	9	3	10	289
251	Signet,	2		2	4	2	123
252	Mizpah,	4		3		2	64
254	Arnold,			1			20
255	Bedford,	2	1	1		2	66
256	Fernwood,	25	2	1		5	142
257	Shiloh,	40	3	9	23	14	468
258	Chester,	15		2		3	196
259	Eden,	6		1			80
260	Bradford,	10	3	3	4	9	231
261	Troy,	1			6	5	67
262	Montgomery,	3		4	2	2	101
263	Coudersport,	1		1	1		70
264	Shamokin,	1		2			71
265	Westfield,	2					30
266	Good Samaritan,	19	1	1		1	74
267	Coatesville,	2	1			2	64
268	Pittsburgh,	17	2	5	2	4	251
269	Ulysses,	3				3	31
270	Doylestown,	3	1	1	3	5	67
271	Pottstown,	4		1	1	2	107
272	Hebron,	1			1	2	42
273	Butler,	6	1		2	2	110
274	Bangor,	4					55
275	Kennett,			1		3	32
276	The Susquehanna,	2	1	4			62
277	Hazleton,	11		1		3	83
278	Catasauqua,	2					45
279	Kane,	4		1	1		37
280	Cyrus,	16	2	1	3		97
281	Monroe,	5					64
282	McKeesport,	41	60	1			100
		<hr/> 1,115	<hr/> 173	<hr/> 375	<hr/> 205	<hr/> 338	<hr/> 18,419

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the death, on August 8, 1900, of Companion J. SIMPSON AFRICA, a member of the Committee on Correspondence, and Representative of the Grand Chapter of California ;

and requested M. E. Companion Edgar A. Tennis to prepare a memorial to be presented at the next Quarterly Communication.

The following Amendment was offered, and action on same postponed until the Quarterly Communication in December next :

Resolved :—that Article XII, Section 1, of the Constitution be amended by adding the following :

The Jewel of a Past Grand High Priest shall consist of a Breast-plate in appropriate colors placed on an equilateral Triangle of gold having a seven-pointed Star in each of its angles ; the Triangle to be placed on a Circle of gold, and all to be suspended from a Mitre of white and gold.

The following Resolution was, on motion, adopted :

“Resolved :—that the proper form of *Mitre* to be worn by the Grand High Priest and by the High Priests of subordinate Chapters is that known as a ‘Jewish Mitre’ ; and that Chapters hereafter procuring such articles shall adopt said form.”

A Communication was read from Companion WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, Representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Mark Lodge of England, as follows :

[OFFICIAL.]

TORQUAY, ENGLAND, June 1, 1900.

DEAR GRAND SECRETARY :—Many thanks for the handsome volume of Proceedings of the G. H. Royal Arch Chap. of Penna., which has interested me very much, and especially the Report on Correspondence by five competent Companions.

First of all let me *correct* Comp. M. H. Henderson’s (P. G. H. P.) correction of my statement respecting the Prince of Wales *not* having been personally re-installed in Grand Lodge since 1875.

“We have a piece of news for Bro. Hughan. The records of the Grand Lodge of England show that the Grand Master was re-elected April 26, 1882, and that he was re-installed.”

I have before me the official report of that meeting. The late Earl of Latham was in the chair, and H. R. H., the Prince of Wales, was *proclaimed* Grand Master, as usual, *but not being present* was *not* installed. The Report relied on by Comp. Henderson is erroneous, so that the *news* is not correct. The fact is, unless the largest hall in London was engaged for the purpose, an ordinary meeting, *if the Grand Master was previously announced as intending to be present*, would not contain the brethren. H. R. H., the Prince of Wales, however, every now and then attends special meetings of the Fraternity, more or less private or unannounced, and, as the Grand Secretary will confirm, he takes a great interest in all that concerns the welfare at home and abroad. Were it convenient, however, undoubtedly Grand Masters, as other Dignitaries, should be installed annually.

I am very pleased to report, that on terms honorable to both parties, the old Mark Lodge has joined the Mark Grand Lodge of England, which was so long held in the *Ashton-on-Tyne District*, as mentioned by Comp. Henderson; so that now the Mark Degree is wholly under regular Governing Bodies in England, Ireland and Scotland, and that the *Mark* Grand Lodge of England was never so prosperous and useful as now. Its large Benevolent Fund for annuities to aged brethren and widows as well as Educational Grants is managed most ably; the Secretary, Bro. C. F. Matier (our esteemed Grand Secretary), *giving* his valuable services, so that the cost of actual management is simply nominal.

Comp. Africa has done well to refer to the first “*Ancient*” Lodge warranted in the U. S. A., viz., at Philadelphia in 1758, as No. 69, becoming No. 2, locally; because the Prov. G. L. later assumed the head of the Roll. This was the first *regular* Chapter in any part of the United States to work the Royal Arch Degree under the Charter of a Lodge; one slightly earlier was, however, granted for Nova Scotia.

Since I wrote the letter (1883) to the Grand Chapter of Penna., the record of the R. A. Degree being worked in Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1753, has been discovered and made known. *This is the earliest record preserved* of the ceremony being conferred, not only for America, but for anywhere. It is, however, to be found noted in print in 1743-4, and was once announced as in Minute Book of Stirling, Scotland, 1743, but, unfortunately, the volume has long been missing.

Still, the 1753 Record was not of a *regular* Chapter, as the Grand Lodge of Scotland did not recognize the Degree, and I take it the Chapter ceased

working farther on. Admitting the regularity of the "Ancients," their Chapters were also regular; but those of the "Moderns" were not until the Union of the rival Grand Lodges in Dec., 1813.

With hearty good wishes for the continued and increased prosperity of the Grand Chapter,

Believe me, yours Fraternally,

WM. JAMES HUGHAN,

*Representative at the Mark G. L.
for the G. C. of Penna.*

A Missive was received from the M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Minnesota, appointing Companion WILLIAM LUTHER GORGAS as its Representative near this Grand Chapter.

On motion, Companion William Luther Gorgas was acknowledged as such Representative.

Communications were received from Grand Chapters announcing the death of honored Companions, as follows:

M. E. Companion W. H. GEE, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Arkansas, died May 28, 1900.

M. E. Companion WILLIAM H. CLARK, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, died June 18, 1900.

M. E. Companion ERWIN ELLIS, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri, died June 26, 1900.

M. E. Companion THOMAS B. LONG, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, State of Indiana, died July 2, 1900.

The Grand Chapter was "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Royal Arch Degree.

A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was opened, and the Royal Arch Degree was exemplified.

The Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

M. E. Companion ISAAC F. STIDHAM, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, who was in attendance, was pleased to address the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at nine o'clock and fifteen minutes, P.M.

CHARLES CARY,
Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, A. D. 1900, A. I. 2430.

PRESENT :

Comp.	MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS,	. <i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
"	EDWARD B. SPENCER,	. <i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
"	HENRY OSCAR KLINE,	. <i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
"	THOMAS R. PATTON,	. <i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
"	CHARLES CARY,	. <i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>
"	REV. HENRY S. GETZ,	. <i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
"	REV. CHARLES M. STOCK,	. <i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
"	REV. WILLIAM B. CHALFANT,	. <i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
"	REV. HORACE F. FULLER,	. <i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
"	EDWIN H. COANE,	. <i>Grand Captain of the Host.</i>
"	CARL A. SUNDSTROM,	. <i>Grand Principal Sojourner.</i>
"	FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY,	. <i>Grand Royal Arch Captain.</i>
"	FRANKLIN P. MASON,	. <i>Grand Master of the Third Vail.</i>
"	ADAM H. SCHMEHL,	. <i>Grand Master of the Second Vail.</i>
"	BENJAMIN EISEMAN,	. <i>Grand Master of the First Vail.</i>
"	GEORGE B. WELLS,	. <i>Grand Marshal.</i>
"	JOHN O'DONNELL,	. <i>Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.</i>
"	FORREST E. GORDON,	. <i>Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.</i>
"	FRANK M. HIGHLEY,	. <i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
"	WILLIAM B. JOSLYN,	. <i>Grand Tyler.</i>

District Deputy Grand High Priests :—Companions CURTIS G. CAMPBELL, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, STEPHEN H. APPLETON, JOHN H. SHOPP, ALBERT R. HOOVER, CHRISTIAN A. SEIDEL, DANIEL Z. WALKER, JOSEPH J. LINGLE, DANIEL B. ELSE, PETER BARKEY, JOHN C. WALLACE, JOHN W. FARNSWORTH, CYRUS H. BLOOD, ELLIS H. DOAN, THOMAS ROSE, SAMUEL S. YOHE, REUBEN A. ZIMMERMAN.

Past Grand High Priests :—M. E. Companions HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

Grand Representatives.

- Comp. EDWARD J. JAMES, of Grand Chapter of Alabama.
- " WILLIAM J. KELLY, of Grand Chapter of Arkansas.
- " THOMAS R. PATTON, of Grand Chapters of Canada and Scotland.
- " JAS. S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and North Carolina.
- " DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
- " H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.
- " GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
- " FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.
- " RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Grand Chapter of Indian Territory.
- " JOSHUA L. LYTE, of Grand Chapter of Iowa.
- " SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.
- " EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
- " ALEXANDER McCUNE, of Grand Chapter of Maine.
- " J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
- " WILLIAM L. GORGAS, of Grand Chapter of Minnesota.
- " GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
- " ROBERT J. LINDEN, of Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.
- " EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
- " CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.
- " MICHAEL W. JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.
- " SAMUEL S. YOHE, of Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.
- " EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
- " ELLSWORTH H. HULTS, of Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.
- " JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
- " HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
- " WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.
- " LOUIS WAGNER, of Grand Chapter of Vermont.
- " MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, of Grand Chapter of Victoria.
- " CONRAD B. DAY, of Grand Chapter of Virginia.
- " JOHN KELLER, of Grand Chapter of Washington.
- " JOHN C. WALLACE, of Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

Chapters No. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 150, 152, 159, 161, 162, 163, 164, 166, 167, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 185, 186, 189, 190, 192, 193, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 209, 212, 214, 215, 217, 219, 220, 221, 222, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 230, 232, 233, 234, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 266, 267, 268, 270, 277, 282.
(94 Chapters.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at two o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, September 6, 1900, were read and approved.

By-Laws were received from Chapters No. 166, 201 and 233, and Amendments to By-Laws from Chapters No. 52 and 195, which were referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Jurisprudence presented the following:

PHILADELPHIA, December 6, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee has not been called together during the present year, as nothing has been presented for their consideration. Everything seems to be moving in harmony and unity.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR.,
HIBBERT P. JOHN,
GEORGE E. WAGNER,
JAMES S. BARBER,

Committee.

The Committee on Finance made the following Quarterly Report:

PHILADELPHIA, November 30, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles

Cary, from August 31, 1900, to November 20, 1900, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing :

Balance on hand, August 31, 1900,	5,118 10
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RECEIPTS.

From Chapters,	1,059 60	
Certificate,	2 00	
Interest on Masonic Loan,	400 00	
Interest on Deposits,	47 95	1,509 55
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		6,627 65

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest,	1,285 06	
Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests,	137 05	
Rent,	1,125 00	
Salaries,	427 50	
Printing, Postage and Stationery,	161 11	
Clothing and Furniture,	53 75	3,189 47
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Balance in hands of M. E. Grand Treasurer,	\$3,438 18
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Fraternally submitted,
(Signed)

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
W. M. DONALDSON,
JACOB W. JACKSON,

Committee.

The Committee on Finance presented the following
Annual Report:

PHILADELPHIA, November 30, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles

Cary, from November 20, 1899, to November 20, 1900, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing :

Balance on hand, November 20, 1899,	. . .	2,317 68
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RECEIPTS.

From Chapters and Mark Lodges,	7,551 35	
Warrant Fee,	100 00	
Constitutions, Dispensations, etc.,	40 00	
Interest on Masonic Loan,	. . . .	800 00	
Interest on Deposits,	. . . .	98 09	8,589 44
			<hr/>
Total,	. . . .		10,907 12

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest,	. . . .	1,495 61	
Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests,	. . . .	778 30	
Rent,	. . . .	1,875 00	
Salaries,	. . . .	1,710 00	
Masonic Home of Pennsylvania,	. . . .	500 00	
Printing, Postage and Stationery,	. . . .	946 18	
Clothing and Furniture,	. . . .	123 85	
Care of Organ,	. . . .	40 00	7,468 94
			<hr/>
Balance in hands of M. E. Grand Treasurer,	. . . .		\$3,438 18

We have examined the investments held by the M. E. Grand Treasurer, amounting to Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00), all of which are Bonds of the 4 per cent. Masonic Loan, in the name of "The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter" of Pennsylvania, and found them correct.

They are as follows :

Bonds Nos. 60, 61, 62 for \$5,000.00 each,	. . . .	15,000 00
Bonds Nos. 191, 192, 193, 194, 195 for \$1,000.00 each,	. . . .	5,000 00
		<hr/>
		\$20,000 00

The Committee presents the following estimate of the Receipts and Expenditures for the year ending November 20, 1901.

Balance on hand,	3,438 18
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RECEIPTS.

Dues and Fees from Chapters and Mark Lodges,	7,000 00	
Interest on Masonic Loan,	800 00	
Sale of Constitutions, Dispensations, etc.,	25 00	7,825 00
		<hr/>
		11,263 18

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest,	2,000 00	
Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests,	850 00	
Masonic Home of Pennsylvania,	500 00	
Salaries:—Grand Secretary,	1,500 00	
Grand Tyler,	150 00	1,650 00
		<hr/>
Clothing, Furniture and Miscellaneous,	500 00	
Printing, Postage and Stationery,	1,200 00	
Rent to September 30, 1901,	1,500 00	
Care of Organ,	40 00	
Past Grand High Priests' Jewels,	1,200 00	
Library Committee, for Binding Proceedings of For-		
eign Grand Chapters,	100 00	
Investment,	1,000 00	10,540 00
		<hr/>
Estimated Balance,		\$723 18

We offer the following Resolutions:

Resolved:—that the M. E. Grand Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to invest One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00) of the funds of the Grand Chapter in a good marketable security, in the name of "The Grand Treasurer of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, in Trust for said Grand Chapter."

Resolved:—that the M. E. Grand High Priest be, and he is hereby authorized to draw his Warrants on the Grand Treasurer for the amounts named in the foregoing estimates as they may become due and payable.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
W. M. DONALDSON,
JACOB W. JACKSON,

Committee.

The Reports were received as read, and the accompanying Resolutions were, on motion, adopted.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following Report, which was received, and the Resolutions were, on motion, adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, December 6, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priests, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on By-Laws respectfully report that they have examined the By-Laws and Amendments to By-Laws referred to them, and submit the following Resolutions:

Resolved:—that the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 166 be amended by striking out Section 7 of Article IV, and by changing the number of "Section 8" to "Section 7," and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved:—that the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 201 be amended as follows:

Article IV, Sec. 3.—Strike out the word "Trustees" and insert "M. E. Grand High Priest." Strike out "and their successors in office."

Article IV, Sec. 5.—Strike out "regalia" and insert "clothing," and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved:—that the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 233 be amended as follows:

Article IV, Sec. 3.—Strike out "and his successors."

Article X.—Strike out "two-thirds" and insert "a majority," and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved:—that the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters No. 52 and 195 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

EDGAR A. TENNIS,
RICHARD M. JOHNSON,
PHILIP C. SHAFFER,
JOSEPH M. WIATT,
LOUIS M. WAGNER,

Committee.

The Committee on Correspondence reported "Progress."

The Committee on Printing and Publishing reported:

PHILADELPHIA, December 6, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on Printing and Publishing report that during the year an expenditure of \$946.18 has been made, covering the cost of Printing the Annual Proceedings of the Grand Chapter for the year 1899.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed)

HARRY I. MCINTIRE, JR.,

For the Committee.

M. E. Companion EDGAR A. TENNIS, Past Grand High Priest, read the following tribute to the memory of the late Companion J. SIMPSON AFRICA, prepared at the request of the M. E. Grand High Priest.

"The hand of the king that the sceptre hath borne—
The brow of the priest that the mitre hath worn—
The eye of the sage and the heart of the brave—
Are hidden and lost in the depth of the grave."

Alas! How frail are all human decorations! How fleeting the distinctions which men confer upon men! In the Chapter and out of it these soon pass away and are forgotten. What a lesson of humility we are taught by these constantly recurring events reminding us of the perishable nature of all earthly things, and teaching us that the everlasting is only found in the brighter and better world beyond. "Passing away" is whispered in the sighing of every wind that blows and in the murmur of every wave that breaks upon the shore. Man vanishes as the drifting cloud, and memory alone remains

to tell us what he was—that memory, alas, too soon like him to pass away, for we cannot make that perpetual whose destiny is decay; yet we would not have the memory and virtues of our good Brother suddenly perish, and to preserve them upon the tablets of our Grand Chapter these words are written at the request of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest in loving memory of

COMPANION J. SIMPSON AFRICA.

It is God's decree that everyone shall die. Death is His messenger to enforce His law, and to none is the hour of its coming known; we only know that

“Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the north wind's breath;
And stars to set; but all—
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O Death!”

It is fitting, when one who has occupied an important and responsible station in our Masonic jurisdiction is removed by the Angel of Death to higher duties and rewards, that we should spread upon our records more than a passing notice of his life work, its sunshine and its shadows, as a perpetual testimony through all future years of the esteem and regard in which this faithful and accomplished brother was held. This I do with an earnestness and love for the subject of this sketch inspired by years of happy acquaintance and loving fellowship, and with the deepest gratitude as I recall the kindly, considerate words of advice mellowed by his cautious and cheerful encouragement.

The genial and helpful presence of Companion Africa is denied us, but his graces as a Mason, his devotion to the cause of humanity and right, his high sense of honor and noble qualities of character prepared him to stand before the Great Overseer to receive his wages for the designs left upon the trestleboard

of life. To us, who were his friends and admirers, the designs speak volumes of good, and their influence will be felt upon our minds and hearts until we too are safely anchored within the household of the faithful.

There is in the life and character of an upright, sincere and true Freemason both a lesson and an example. It is of these that the jewels of Freemasonry are made, and one cannot read the history and life of our departed and honored Brother without a feeling that such men have not lived in vain—his unostentatious life and faithful devotion, his generous, charitable and sympathetic nature are not only a legacy to us, his brethren, but a lesson to be studied and an example to be followed.

“Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time;—

Footprints, that perhaps another,
Sailing o’er life’s solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, may take heart again.”

The subject of this sketch believed in Masonry and in the doctrines therein taught; of the resurrection of the body and the immortality of the soul. His departure—quiet and peaceful as his life—is but a temporary separation from his friends on earth, who, believing and practicing the same tenets, will have opened wide on life’s last camping ground the inner veil of the tabernacle.

Companion J. Simpson Africa was born at Huntingdon, Pa., September 15, 1832, and died at the home of his childhood on August 8, 1900. His early education, the beginning of an active and useful life, and much of his success thereafter were amid the scenes of his boyhood and within the borders of the historic Juniata Valley, than whom no more

conspicuous nor honored native son has roamed its tree pinioned and rock ribbed mountain sides, nor have the waters of the Blue Juniata, since the days of the Indian maiden Alfarata to the present time, borne upon their bosom a canoe with more precious freight, nor a heart more in sympathy with nature's surroundings as he found them.

A prince has fallen in our Israel; one who exemplified those virtues which adorn, dignify and make beautiful the human character—virtues which it is the especial object of Masonry to inculcate, preserve, and enforce; unaffected, but sincere in his piety; of a moral rectitude without blot or blemish; temperate in all things; prudent, forbearing, courteous, and charitable; he ever sought “to walk humbly in the sight of God”; to do justice and love mercy; his words were kindness, and his deeds were love; his spirit humble, and his life well spent; these, then, and not a stone, shall be his monument.

The Masonic record of Companion Africa attests his knowledge, usefulness, and devotion to the Fraternity of which we are all justly proud. He was initiated in Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 300, F. & A. M., January 16, 1866, passed to the degree of Fellow Craft Mason, February 20, 1866, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, June 11, 1866.

He served as Secretary of his lodge in 1869, 1870 and 1871. In 1872 he was elected Junior Warden; in 1873, Senior Warden, and Worshipful Master of his lodge in 1874. Eleven years later than this his brethren of Grand Lodge, recognizing his ability and admiring his devotion to Freemasonry, elected him to the honorable position of Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, and re-elected him in 1886. In 1887 and 1888 he was elected Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden. In 1889 he was elected Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and re-elected in 1890.

The highest honor within the gift of his brethren was unani-

mously bestowed upon him in 1891, and he was re-elected to the exalted station of Right Worshipful Grand Master in 1892. Among the many distinguished Masons who have occupied the Oriental Chair no one of them can be said to have presided with more zeal, a larger amount of practical knowledge, a more faithful adherence to the obligations of the Craft or a greater desire for its welfare and prosperity; nor did his interest cease with the responsibilities of his official life for until the close of life itself he continued to shed the beams of encouragement and promise upon the Fraternity at large—his hand was ever ready to sustain a fallen brother, his heart beat responsively to our joys and to our sorrows—beautiful offering to the memory of the dead.

These are the flowers with which Masonic Love decorates the tomb of the departed brother; they are tributes that survive distinction, rank and honor—all ended now by the remorseless power that spares neither age, sex, nor condition.

At the Annual Grand Communication of Grand Lodge in 1874, and again in 1876, he was appointed upon a Committee to revise the Ahiman Rezon of 1857. He was again appointed upon a Committee in 1895 to revise the Ahiman Rezon and the Ancient Charges, Forms and Ceremonies.

Upon his retirement from the Grand Master's station in 1892 he was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Temple, and continued to discharge the duties of this important position until December 1898. At the time of his death he was Chairman of the "Trustees of the Title to the Masonic Temple and other Real Estate of Grand Lodge"; one of the Trustees of the "Thomas R. Patton Memorial Charity Fund"; one of the "Commissioners of the Sinking Fund" and a member of the "Committee on Landmarks."

He was a member and Most Excellent Past High Priest of Standing Stone Royal Arch Chapter, No. 201, of Huntingdon, Pa., and has served this Grand Chapter with special ability

for many years as a member of the Committee on Correspondence; his reports have always been interesting and read with much profit in our own and foreign jurisdictions.

In March, 1896, he was one of a Committee appointed to revise and amend the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, and in many ways our admiration has been excited at the unselfish manner in which he devoted himself to the highest and best interests of our Fraternity. And so concludes the list of honorable places held by our illustrious brother in the ranks of Masonry. Briefly related, how much the list represents of life work. His has been to live and act as one who shall give an account, and his life work is an open book, the pages of which are illuminated with duty ably and faithfully performed, and, having the seal of human approbation placed thereon which is second only to that of God. Calm, dignified and courteous to a degree he won the love and respect of all ranks and classes. Strong in his convictions of right, still he never ruled in a "proud or imperious manner," and lays down the sceptre in the full esteem and confidence of all his brethren: — but idle are the words of woe and vain the voice of praise.

Our Companion needs no eulogy. He has gone from among us, 'tis true. He sleeps, and sleeps well, no doubt. His form will moulder in the dust of ages, but longer than sculptured marble or storied verse can stand the test of time will his immortal character and deathless name be cherished, embalmed and crystallized in the love and memory of members of our noble Fraternity yet unborn.

"What is life? 'Tis a beautiful shell
Thrown up by eternity's flow
On Time's bank of quicksand to dwell
And a moment its loveliness show.
Gone back to its element grand
Is the billow that washed it ashore;
See! Another now washes the strand
And the beautiful shell is no more."

This being the time fixed by the Constitution for the election of Grand Officers to serve for the ensuing Masonic year, beginning on St. John the Evangelist's Day next, the M. E. Grand High Priest, after declining a re-election, was pleased to appoint Tellers; who having reported, the M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following named Companions duly elected:

Companion	EDWARD B. SPENCER,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
"	HENRY OSCAR KLINE,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
"	J. HENRY WILLIAMS,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
"	THOMAS R. PATTON,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
"	CHARLES CARY,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

The proposed Amendment to the Constitution, offered at the Quarterly Communication held on September 6, 1900, was, on motion, adopted, as follows:

Resolved:—that Article XII, Sec. 1, be amended by adding the following:

"The Jewel of a Past Grand High Priest shall consist of a Breastplate in appropriate colors placed on an equilateral Triangle of gold having a seven-pointed Star in each of its angles, the Triangle to be placed on a Circle of gold, and all to be suspended from a Mitre of white and gold."

The following Amendments to the Constitution were offered, and action on the same postponed until the Quarterly Communication in December next:

PHILADELPHIA, December 6, 1900.

The undersigned offer the following Amendments to the Constitution of this Grand Chapter:

Add to Section 1 of Article VIII, as follows: "8.—Trustees of the Investments and Property of the Grand Chapter."

Add to Article VIII, as follows: "Trustees of the Investments and Property of the Grand Chapter. Sec. 21.—There shall be three Trustees of

the Investments and Property of the Grand Chapter. They shall report their proceedings and the state of the Trust annually, at the Quarterly Communication in December, and whenever, at any other time, required by the Committee on Finance or the Grand High Priest. Sec. 22.—All investments of the Grand Chapter shall be in the name of 'The Trustees of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, and their successors, in trust for said Grand Chapter,' and unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Chapter such investment shall, from time to time, be changed only under the direction of the Committee on Finance and with the approval of the M. E. Grand High Priest."

(Signed)

WILLIAM M. DONALDSON,
SAMUEL S. YOHE.

Communications were received from Grand Chapters announcing the death of distinguished Companions, as follows:

M. E. Companion DAVID FISHER DAY, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York. Died August 21, 1900.

R. E. Companion JOHN WARREN LAFLIN, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, State of Wisconsin. Died August 30, 1900.

M. E. Companion HORACE H. MUNSON, Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina. Died September 9, 1900.

M. E. Companion EUGENE Lecompte STOKER, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, State of Illinois. Died September 30, 1900.

M. E. Companion JEREMIAH C. ALLEN, Past Grand

High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the District of Columbia. Died October 2, 1900.

M. E. Companion WILLIAM B. WILSON, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, State of Missouri. Died October 18, 1900.

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at four o'clock and twenty-five minutes, P.M.

CHARLES CARY,

Grand Secretary.

ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, ST. JOHN'S DAY,
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, A. D. 1900, A. I. 2430.

PRESENT :

Comp.	MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS,	. .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
"	EDWARD B. SPENCER,	. .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
"	HENRY OSCAR KLINE,	. .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
"	THOMAS R. PATTON,	. .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
"	CHARLES CARY,	. .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>
"	ALBERT R. HOOVER,	. .	<i>D. D. Grand High Priest.</i>
"	PETER BARKEY,	. .	<i>D. D. Grand High Priest.</i>
"	THOMAS ROSE,	. .	<i>D. D. Grand High Priest.</i>
"	REV. HENRY S. GETZ,	. .	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
"	REV. HORACE F. FULLER,	. .	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
"	EDWIN H. COANE,	. .	<i>Grand Captain of the Host.</i>
"	CARL A. SUNDSTROM,	. .	<i>Grand Principal Sojourner.</i>
"	FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY,	. .	<i>Grand Royal Arch Captain.</i>
"	FRANKLIN P. MASON,	. .	<i>Grand Master of the Third Vail.</i>
"	ADAM H. SCHMEHL,	. .	<i>Grand Master of the Second Vail.</i>
"	BENJAMIN EISEMAN,	. .	<i>Grand Master of the First Vail.</i>
"	GEORGE B. WELLS,	. .	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
"	JOHN O'DONNEL,	. .	<i>Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.</i>
"	FORREST E. GORDON,	. .	<i>Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.</i>
"	FRANK M. HIGHLEY,	. .	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
"	WILLIAM B. JOSLYN,	. .	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>

Past Grand High Priests :—M. E. Companions SAMUEL C. PERKINS, GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

Grand Representatives.

Comp. EDWARD J. JAMES, of Grand Chapter of Alabama.
" WILLIAM J. KELLY, of Grand Chapter of Arkansas.

- Comp. THOMAS R. PATTON, of Grand Chapters of Canada and Scotland.
“ JAMES S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and North Carolina.
“ DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
“ GEORGE E. WAGNER, of Grand Mark Lodge of England.
“ H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.
“ GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
“ FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.
“ RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Grand Chapter of Indian Territory.
“ SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.
“ EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
“ SAMUEL C. PERKINS, of Grand Chapter of Louisiana.
“ J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
“ GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
“ ROBERT J. LINDEN, of Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.
“ EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
“ CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.
“ MICHAEL W. JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.
“ EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
“ ELLSWORTH H. HULTS, of Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.
“ JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
“ HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
“ WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.
“ CONRAD B. DAY, of Grand Chapter of Virginia.

Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 152, 161, 169, 171, 173, 175, 183, 190, 197, 198, 202, 215, 220, 232, 237, 238, 240, 243, 245, 247, 248, 250, 251, 255, 256, 258, 262. (32 Chapters.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at seven o'clock, P.M.

Copy of proposed Amendment to By-Laws was received from Chapter No. 243, which was referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following report, which was received, and the accompanying resolution was, on motion, adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, December 27, 1900.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS :—Your Committee on By-Laws would report that they have examined the Amendment to By-Laws submitted to them, and offer the following resolution :

“ Resolved :—that the proposed Amendment to By-Laws of Chapter No. 243 be approved.”

Fraternally submitted,

EDGAR A. TENNIS,

For the Committee.

The Committee on Past Grand High Priests' Jewels reported that they had performed their duty ; the Jewels having been completed and now in the possession of the Grand Chapter.

On motion, the report was received and the Committee discharged, with thanks.

General Returns were received from a number of Chapters and one Mark Lodge, which were ordered to be entered and filed.

A communication was received from the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California, announcing the death, on November 13, 1900, of M. E. Companion THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Past Grand High Priest of said Grand Chapter.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, then presented the following

REPORT.

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER:—The swift flight of time has again brought us together in Annual Communication and, in accordance with the established custom, I am now, before laying down the sceptre of authority, to briefly review, for your information and for the information of Royal Arch Masons throughout this jurisdiction, the more important matters which have occurred in my administration of office during the year now closed.

As one year ago, I begin by congratulating you upon the prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction. Peace and harmony have so prevailed as to make the duties of the Grand High Priest comparatively easy and his official acts as few as possible and generally of a mere routine character. One Chapter has been added to the list and the annual healthy increase of about 500 Royal Arch Masons, which has prevailed for some years past, has been kept up. The finances of the Grand Chapter are in a sound condition, as is evidenced by a small addition about to be made to its invested fund. These matters will be given in detail in the printed proceedings and I need therefore merely refer to them.

The reports of the District Deputies and my own observation, so far as I have been able to visit them, show that, with few exceptions, the subordinate Chapters are also in a healthy and prosperous condition; their meetings are well attended and increased interest is taken in the work, which is for the most part rendered in substantial conformity to that authorized by the Grand Chapter; and I am pleased to find further from these reports that fewer degrees are conferred by Past High Priests

and more by the Chapter Officers themselves. I am pleased also to note that the practice, which formerly prevailed so widely, of conferring several degrees upon the same candidate at the same meeting is measurably disappearing. I have adverted to this matter in a previous address. I feel that I can not too strongly emphasize the desirability of abolishing this practice, except in cases of actual emergency, and I add the hope that the day is not far distant when the requirement of a month's delay between the conferring of the several degrees shall be written in the Constitution of the Grand Chapter.

THE DEAD.

But while we rejoice in the general prosperity of the Grand Chapter and its subordinate Chapters, we can not forget that the Grim Reaper is ever busy among us. We have been notified from time to time during the year by our sister Grand Chapters of the loss of eminent members which they have suffered, and we tender to them our sincerest sympathy. We ourselves have been called upon to mourn the loss of three prominent members of this Grand Chapter, viz. :

Companion Thomas B. Angell, Grand Chaplain.

Companion N. Ferree Lightner, Member of the Committee on Charity.

Companion J. Simpson Africa, Member of the Committee on Correspondence.

Memorials of the lives and services of Companions Angell and Africa have been presented to the Grand Chapter, the former at the Quarterly Communication in March and the latter at that in December. Companion Lightner was long an active member of this Grand Chapter and for twelve years a member of its Committee on Charity. He was known to and respected and beloved by you all as a zealous Freemason, an

estimable citizen and a genial Companion, and I sincerely regret that I have no data upon which to base a brief statement of the most prominent facts of his life and Masonic services.

RELATIONS WITH SISTER GRAND CHAPTERS.

Our relations with our sister Grand Chapters continue to be of the most cordial character. During the year I have appointed Companion Samuel S. Hubbard, the representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

And the following Companions have been appointed and received and acknowledged as the representatives of the Grand Chapters named near this Grand Chapter:

Companion William Luther Gorgas, of the Grand Chapter of Minnesota.

Companion Joshua L. Lyte, of the Grand Chapter of Iowa.

Companion J. Henry Williams, of the Grand Chapter of Maryland.

Companion Martin L. Shaffner, of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

At the request of the M. E. Grand High Priests of New York and New Jersey, I have waived the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter and granted permission to Chapters in those jurisdictions to receive and act upon petitions for the Capitular Degrees in a number of cases in which the applicants were residents of this State but members of Lodges in other Jurisdictions, and similar courtesy has been extended to this Grand Chapter by the M. E. Grand High Priest of New Jersey. In two cases in which the applicants were not only residents of this State but also members of Lodges within it, I was compelled to refuse waiver of jurisdiction upon the ground that the applicants had not "passed the chair" in accordance with the Pennsylvania usage. Subsequently upon the presentation of satis-

factory evidence that this obstacle had been removed, the waiver was in both cases granted.

At the Quarterly Communication in June the Grand Chapter was honored by the presence of Companion William H. Grosscup, Deputy Grand High Priest, and Noel R. Park, Grand King of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey. They were appropriately welcomed by the M. E. Grand King, who presided over the Grand Chapter in my unavoidable absence, and responded in a fraternal manner. The relations of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey and this Grand Chapter have for a number of years been very close and its Grand Officers are always very welcome at our Communications. I was reluctantly compelled to decline the fraternal invitation of M. E. Grand High Priest Bliss of New Jersey, to attend the Forty-fourth Annual Communication of that Grand Chapter, held on May 9, 1900.

We have several times during the year been honored by the presence of M. E. Past Grand High Priest Isaac F. Stidham of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, who is now a resident of this City and is always a welcome visitor at our meetings.

DISPENSATIONS AND EDICTS.

During the year I have granted dispensations to the following Chapters:

To Chapter 190 to elect a King and a Scribe, the King elect having died and the Scribe elect having declined to be installed.

To Chapter No. 169 to elect a Treasurer, the Treasurer elect having declined to be installed.

To Chapter No. 259 to elect a Treasurer to fill a vacancy caused by death.

To Chapter No. 199 to elect a Secretary to fill a like vacancy.

I have refused a dispensation to confer the degrees upon a Candidate, who had failed to present himself within six months

after the approval of his petition; also, in several cases, petitions to confer the degrees upon candidates without awaiting the usual delays. The former matter, being clearly defined by the Constitution, should, in my judgment, be considered beyond the dispensing power of the Grand High Priest. The latter dispensations were refused, partly because of the informality of the requests for them, but mainly because no sufficient case of urgency was made to appear, and such dispensations should never be granted for the mere convenience of the candidate or to hasten his entrance into any other body. Following the precedent of my predecessors, of which I entirely approve, I have during both years of my term of office refused dispensations to elect Chapter Officers at special meetings.

The strong remedy of Edict has been required in but one case, in which a Chapter acted upon a petition for the Degrees and Membership and conferred the Degrees without waiting for the favorable reply of the Grand Secretary. Although explanations made it apparent that there was no intentional wrong doing and that the violation of law was due to carelessness, or perhaps oversight, I was compelled to issue an Edict declaring the action of the Chapter null and void and that the name of the initiate be stricken from the roll.

CONNELLSVILLE CHAPTER, NO. 283.

At the Quarterly Communication in June was presented to the Grand Chapter the petition of seventeen Royal Arch Masons residing in Connellsville, praying for a Warrant of Constitution empowering them to meet as a regular Chapter at that place, to be called "Connellsville Chapter, No. 283." The petition having been referred to the Grand Officers with power to act, and their action having been favorable, I issued a Dispensation to Companion Henry Oscar Kline, M. E. Grand Scribe, author-

izing him to constitute the new Chapter. This duty he very satisfactorily performed on October 30, 1900, with the assistance of District Deputy Grand High Priests Curtis G. Campbell and John McKain, Grand Tyler William B. Joslyn and other Companions. The new Chapter started with sixteen Chapter Members, it is well located, its members are reported to be full of zeal, and I believe I am entirely safe in predicting its future success.

DECISIONS.

During the year I have answered numerous inquiries and have made a number of decisions. Most of these, however, involved nothing either very new or very important. I deem it proper to call your attention to only three decisions:

1. The Ark used in the Degree of Most Excellent Master Mason, being a representation of the Ark of the Covenant described in Exodus xxxvii., must be gilded within and without, with gilded rings and staves, and can not be white.

2. When a petition for the Degrees and Membership has, after a favorable report of the Committee of Inquiry, been withdrawn by permission of a majority of all the members present, it can not again be presented to the Chapter. If the applicant desires to renew his application, it must be by a fresh petition and the proceedings must be in all respects *de novo*.

3. A Mark Lodge, receiving a petition for the Degree and Membership from a petitioner who resides nearer to a Chapter than to such Mark Lodge, must make, of such "nearest Chapter," the inquiry for "Masonic objection" required by Section 9, Article XVII, of the Constitution.

I was consulted by the High Priest of a Chapter as to whether he should yield to solicitations for the conferring of all three degrees at the same meeting, in order to permit the candidates

to enter a Commandery in time to take part in the parade of the Grand Commandery in May. I advised him as follows:

“While the matter of arranging the work of the Chapter is in the sound discretion of the High Priest, I think it is injurious to the best interests of the Chapter and to the candidates themselves to confer all three degrees upon the same set of candidates at the same meeting. I have referred to this matter at length in my address printed in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter for the year 1898 and, during my term of office as Grand High Priest, my opinions on this subject have been strengthened rather than in any manner changed. If applicants for the Capitular Degrees are anxious to reach the Commandery at a particular time, they should not delay presenting their petitions to the Chapter until it is too late to permit the Capitular work to be done in an orderly manner without defeating their aspirations to join in the Grand Commandery parade. Under no circumstances should the Chapter be made a mere stepping stone to the Commandery.

“The matter is in your hands, and I have not felt warranted in forbidding the course which is urged upon you, but my advice is that you confer upon the same candidates but one degree at a meeting and give ample time and opportunity between the conferring of the Degrees for the candidates to familiarize themselves with what has been conferred upon them.”

EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE WORK.

During the past year the several Capitular Degrees have been exemplified in the Grand Chapter by members of the Temple School of Instruction as follows:

The Degree of Mark Master Mason at the Quarterly Communication in March.

The Degree of Most Excellent Master Mason at the Quarterly Communication in June.

And the Royal Arch Degree at the Quarterly Communication in September.

I repeat what I said a year ago of the work of these Companions; that it was very accurately and impressively done and received the fully merited praise of the most competent critics. I again tender to them my thanks and the thanks of the Grand Chapter for their services.

CONCLUSION.

Companions, I should be less than human if I were not both deeply grateful to you for, and proud of, the great honor you have done me in twice calling me by your unanimous voice to this exalted station. My work is done. I make no apology for the short-comings and defects which can easily be found in it. But such has been the loyal friendship and kind consideration which I have always experienced at your hands, that I am confident you will not judge these too harshly. I thank you most sincerely for the honors you have conferred upon me and for the unfailing kindness you have shown towards me. I wish you all God speed and for the Grand Chapter a long and glorious career.

In a few days we will cross the threshold of a new Century. What history has been made in the Century now closed! What Masonic History! What history in this Grand Chapter! and what progress! One hundred years ago there was indeed a Grand Chapter, which had the supervision of Royal Arch Masonry, but it was itself under the protection and authority of the Grand Lodge and had as yet no jurisdiction over the Degrees of Mark Master Mason and Most Excellent Master Mason. The Royal Arch Degree was conferred in Chapters

held under the authority of Lodge Warrants, and they were few and scattered. Of those now upon our list I can recognize as then or earlier existing only: No. 3, The Premier Royal Arch Chapter of America, and No. 52, both of Philadelphia, and probably No. 21, of Harrisburg, and No. 43, of Lancaster. All others have disappeared or have lost their identity. But in their stead, in addition to the four older Chapters named, are now 120 Chapters, many of them strong in numbers and full of life and vigor, and, instead of the small groups of Royal Arch Masons, which thus clustered about a few Lodges and under the shelter of their Warrants found Masonic life and protection, are over 19,000 Chapter Members to-day. It is interesting, as well as gratifying, to compare the strength and prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in this Jurisdiction at the close of the Century with its struggling feebleness at the beginning. But we must remember that this progress was not easy. On the contrary it was made often over rough ways and in the face of great opposition and sore trials, and we owe a debt of deepest gratitude to those who have preceded us, for their patience, their perseverance, their constancy, their courage and their steadfast and often self-sacrificing devotion to the institution we so highly prize.

What has the new Century in store for Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania? Companions, that rests largely with you. This Grand Chapter has long been known for its conservatism. Let us keep it "upon the ancient ways" and jealously guard against innovation. Let us maintain the spirit of unity and concord which now so happily prevail and, mindful of what our fathers have accomplished and imitating their bright example, their fidelity, their zeal and their courage, let us press forward without fear.

"Here is all fullness, ye brave, to reward you,
Work and despair not."

At the conclusion of his address, M. E. Grand High Priest Companion MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS spoke as follows :

COMPANIONS :—Before proceeding to perform my last official act, the instalment of my successor in office, I have a duty to perform which is a pleasant and at the same time a delicate one. It is pleasant because I know it will give pleasure to you all, and because it relates to a number of Companions whom you hold in the highest esteem both because of their personal qualities and because of their services to this Grand Chapter, and as exemplars of Royal Arch Masonry. It is a delicate one because in a few moments I shall install my successor in office, and I myself shall then go to join the great majority of dead kings, of Past Grand High Priests; it is to them that this act relates, and I hope that nothing that I shall say may be understood as intended to have any personal application to myself.

The office of Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania is one of great honor and dignity, and of very extensive powers. The incumbent of that office is, in many respects, an autocratic ruler over nineteen thousand Royal Arch Masons, and he is the presiding officer and responsible head of the oldest, and I think I may fairly say, one of the most dignified Grand Chapters on this continent. In no Grand Chapter in this country, I believe, are such extensive powers vested in the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and yet I have never heard of any abuse of power; and if an incumbent of this office has governed with justice and equity, and a fair amount of wisdom, he is justly entitled to be held in respectful remembrance by his companions.

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania at this time is fortunate in having, and it is a fact of which we all are proud, eleven Past Grand High Priests who, when the sceptre of office was

successively in their hands, earnestly strove to promote the welfare of this Grand Chapter, and by every means in their power to advance the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction. That they succeeded well I need not tell you. The record shows it and you already know it. The members of this Grand Chapter, in view of these facts, and desirous of showing their appreciation of the services of these Companions, at the Quarterly Communication in June resolved to present to each of them a Past Grand High Priest's jewel, and at the Quarterly Communication in December, in order that this testimonial thus presented might be the more beautiful and fitting, they amended the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, changing the form of the jewel; and now, in the name of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, I take great pleasure in presenting one of these jewels to each of the following named companions: Most Excellent Companion Samuel C. Perkins, Most Excellent Companion George E. Wagner, Most Excellent Companion William C. Hamilton, Most Excellent Companion Hibbert P. John, Most Excellent Companion George W. Kendrick, Jr., Most Excellent Companion Matthias H. Henderson, Most Excellent Companion James S. Barber, Most Excellent Companion Alexander H. Morgan, Most Excellent Companion Edgar A. Tennis, Most Excellent Companion Ezra S. Bartlett, and Most Excellent Companion Richard M. Johnson; and I add the fervent hope, and in so doing I know that I voice the unanimous sentiment of the members of this Grand Chapter, that each of you may live long to wear it.

Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest SAMUEL C. PERKINS replied as follows:

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST, AND COMPANIONS
OF THE GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA

VANIA :—I am requested upon the part of the Past Grand High Priests to make some acknowledgment of this very gratifying token which we have received from your hands this evening. I am not a little embarrassed, because I am afraid that my memory will carry me back to some things which may occupy considerable time, but I, in conjunction with my fellow Past Grand High Priests, do feel that this token of your appreciation of our past services to the Grand Chapter is most touching and gratifying to our Masonic hearts. I need not dwell, my Companions, upon my personal love for, devotion to and affection for the Ancient Craft Masonry, which included as its highest degree the Royal Arch degree. Those of you who have studied up Masonic history will understand me, and when I go back now at least thirty, perhaps more, years, for my eyesight is such that I have not been able to read up the history, and my memory perhaps is somewhat treacherous, but it is at least thirty years since I filled the office of Grand High Priest of this Chapter. That was prior to the other honor which the Masonic Fraternity conferred upon me, and that is my election and services as Grand Master in this jurisdiction. My associations with this temple are most intimate, for I was connected as chairman of the building committee, and superintended every stroke upon this building from the foundation to the very cap stone of the highest pinnacle of the temple. I remember very well the somewhat great anxiety of my brethren in the Craft lest I should be precipitated to an untimely and early demise as I ascended to the very pinnacle of the temple when the last stone was placed there, and this Temple has endured as a monument to the Craft in Pennsylvania. I also recall the great interest I took in Royal Arch Masonry. My honored father, now deceased some twenty or thirty years, was a Past Grand High Priest, and he constantly inculcated upon me the tenets, the purposes and the aims of this Fraternity, not only in the three degrees of Blue Masonry, but

also in the Royal Arch, and from him I imbibed, from my earliest youth, as far as I can remember back, when he was taken a prisoner to Harrisburg to answer to the Legislature of the State for the sins and the iniquities and the dangers of Free Masonry, and from that early day I never have known the moment when it was not my intention, as soon as I was of proper age and could be received, that I should become a Mason, and identified with the Ancient Craft Masonry, of which the Royal Arch is the highest degree.

I recall with great pleasure, and if I speak personally there are Companions here who were associated with me in my labors, and who can bear witness to the truth of what I say,—I can recall the condition of Royal Arch Masonry when I took the office of Grand High Priest. There was at that time a feeling of inquietude among the fraternity in Pennsylvania. There seemed to be a lack of that intimacy and that association between the companions of the city and the companions in the balance of the state, and I do take a sincere pride, in which the companions who know personally of my labors in that respect can testify, in the fact that I instituted and carried out a series of visitations to the Chapters throughout the state. I had a most efficient corps of associate subordinate officers, who seconded me in every intention and in every movement that I made in order to bring about that effect. We visited extensively in the western part of the state, the northern part of the state, and wherever we had opportunity, and we pursued this principle, and it brought the hearts of the Brethren in the other parts of the state entirely in accord and sympathy with the Companions in Philadelphia, and with the Chapter work. We adopted the plan, not of calling upon them to show us what they knew and did not know, but to their great relief we had a full corps of officers and exemplified every particle of the work, and explained it all to them ourselves, so that they might understand

that the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter as it existed at its headquarters in Philadelphia was not separated or segregated from the balance of the state, and the effect was most happy, not only upon Royal Arch Masonry but I believe upon Masonry in general in uniting the state in one sympathetic bond, and all desirous for the honor of the Grand Lodge, and of the Grand Chapter, and of Masonry in Pennsylvania as a state institution.

Now, my Companions, I am tempted somewhat to enlarge. Let me impress upon your minds the importance and the solemnity of the ritual of the Royal Arch. We are taught in the Blue Lodge our respect for the Holy Bible, and we are taught in Royal Arch Masonry a deeper respect for it when we agree to search, to seek and to keep God's Holy Word. I do not intend to preach, but I do exhort you, my Companions, not to overlook the fundamental importance of paying attention to these matters which sometimes seem to be gone through so much as a matter of form; but we must remember always the precepts of the Holy Bible, more particularly the precepts of our Grand Master King Solomon, and they are recorded in that Sacred Book, more particularly in the book of Proverbs and in Ecclesiastes. If we want to imbibe the true principles of Masonry in all the degrees which belong to the ancient Masonry then we ought to follow those precepts, we should seek the Word of God, we should search it, and above all, with the blessing of the Most High, we should endeavor to keep those precepts. Then shall we be able, in His strength, to show forth the principles of charity, of humanity and morality which are given out as the foundations of our faith and belief in Masonry.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, on behalf of the Past Grand High Priests I do return to you, and to the Grand Chapter, our most sincere thanks for these beautiful jewels which you have presented to us, and may the blessing of the Most High rest upon this Grand Chapter and all its Companions.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS then said :

COMPANIONS:—It is exceedingly gratifying to have had these remarks from a Past Grand High Priest who presided over this Grand Chapter precisely one-third of a century ago.

So much of the Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, December 6, 1900, as relates to the election of Grand Officers was read.

All the Companions present who had not received the Order of High-Priesthood having retired,

Companion EDWARD B. SPENCER was installed *Most Excellent Grand High Priest of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging*; was duly proclaimed as such, and received the salutations of the Craft.

The Companions who had retired were readmitted, when the following Grand Officers were severally installed, and were each duly proclaimed, and received the salutations of the Craft.

Companion Henry Oscar Kline, M. E. Grand King.

Companion J. Henry Williams, M. E. Grand Scribe.

Companion Thomas R. Patton, M. E. Grand Treasurer.

Companion Charles Cary, M. E. Grand Secretary.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion EDWARD B. SPENCER, then delivered the following

ADDRESS.

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA:—In entering upon the duties of this responsible position, I profoundly appreciate the confidence which you have placed in me, and the honor you have conferred upon me. The dignity of the office of Most Excellent Grand High Priest, in this jurisdiction consists not alone in the fact that the Royal Arch degree is the summit and perfection of Ancient Masonry, but moreover in the unique and regal character of the organization of this particular Grand Body, which is in itself independent and supreme. Originally an outgrowth, or adjunct, of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, it secured for itself a separate and independent existence in 1824, and has never become so affiliated by confederation as to lose this self-sustaining and self-regulating character either in a legislative or judicial point of view. While recognizing as associates and peers all loyal Royal Arch Companions, and while co-operating with all regularly constituted organizations in advancing the interest of Capitular Masonry, we under the provisions of the Constitution and subject to the usages, customs, and landmarks of ancient Masonry, continue to be a law unto ourselves. This High Priesthood, therefore, involves an almost absolute prerogative of function, the exercise of which is both honorable and of grave responsibility. I assume this responsibility with the hope, at least, that by your assistance and under the stimulus of the past, I may prove worthy of the trust.

My predecessor has in his report given you a clear and exhaustive statement of the transactions of the year just completed, thus showing the present status of the Grand Chapter. Natu-

rally it might be expected of me to give in this inaugural address some plan of work for the future in an outline of policy to be pursued during the coming official term. I propose, however, to make no announcement, save that of a purpose to adhere strictly to the provisions of our matchless Constitution, and to put in practice the fundamental principles of ancient Masonry as expounded and defined by the usages of the Craft. These are the written and unwritten laws by which every Royal Arch Mason in this jurisdiction is supposed to act, and by which every High Priest, whether of the Grand or of a subordinate Chapter is to wield the sceptre of his authority. This is the true idea of Masonic government. It is not modeled after any form of civil government nor does it draw its inspiration therefrom. The nearest approach to it is the ancient Jewish hierarchy, from which are derived many of the forms and much of the symbolism of our Fraternity. The first lesson taught in Freemasonry suggests that Masonic laws are based upon the laws of God, and all subsequent instruction from Entered Apprentice to Royal Arch is a continued illustration of Divine principles. To this broad definition of an authentic policy obligatory on each one of us, I may add, that if I fail in matters of detail so as to disappoint your expectations, it will be through a misinterpretation of the law, or a misapprehension of the principles.

This St. John's Day, Anno Inventionis 2430, as it stands related to the Roman calendar, has some significance to us as Freemasons in common with the world at large. The date reminds us that we are on the verge of a new epoch in the secular reckoning. In a few days, we shall step over the dividing line between one of the great distinct periods of the past and the boundless reach of the future. The stroke of the midnight hour which indicates the advent of the new year, will also announce the beginning of the twentieth century. Lately we celebrated the completion of a hundred years in the history

of this Grand Chapter. Many were the pleasing and instructive reminiscences which hallowed that occasion. It is not necessary to recall these here, but there are other thoughts which rise involuntarily in our minds as we contemplate the approach of this secular epoch recognized by the whole civilized world.

And the one thought which stands most prominent in my mind as most fitting to consider in this connection, because containing practical lessons for us all, is that which concerns the attainment of true *progress*—which is the law of the universe,—without sacrificing our specific character of *unchangeableness*; for, immutability is the watchword and boast of Freemasonry. This is the paradox which presents itself to us as a representative organization. The past hundred years, however, have in part solved the problem by a wonderful development in Lodge and Chapter, joined with an undeviating fidelity to the principles which are the basis of these organizations. There has been a healthy advance in all lines as well as in that of numerical strength. It has been demonstrated that Masonry while preserving a careful veneration for the old; has gathered around itself from external contact with the world much that is new and that is an essential part of the modern mode of living. The forces which are generated in the mighty sweep of ages are irresistible, and society is everywhere moulded by these forces.

Would the Freemason of a hundred years ago find himself at home in the life of to-day? Certainly not, in the sights and sounds that would greet him on the public highway. The inventions and discoveries of past decades, the multiplying of material resources, the broadening of general knowledge, the refining of popular taste in art, and the application of science and philosophy to modern practical life make this almost an unrecognizable world when compared even with that of our

childhood. The externals of Freemasonry have shared in this change, which yet is one of legitimate progress. As a single instance compare the plain, unadorned structure in which were held the meetings of the Craft in this city in 1795, with the magnificent building in which we are now assembled. A Brother or a Companion of that day would never be able to locate himself in relation to these external features which are so indicative of change; but let him participate in the work of the modern Lodge or Chapter, let him there behold the ancient forms and listen to the ancient ritual,—let him breathe the genial atmosphere of this sacred retreat wherein brotherly love is found, and he will recognize the stable foundations upon which this institution stands. The differences wrought by the flight of years are but conventional, and the fundamental doctrine of *unchangeableness* in Masonry is in no sense incompatible with the law of progress which governs and controls all human life.

The practical lesson derived from this thought in connection with your obligation to the Chapter, my Companions, is twofold:

First.—Guard the sacred foundations by learning and inculcating their value. Be familiar with the ritual; for, in this jurisdiction especially, it has the true savor of antiquity. It has been said. “Our Grand Chapter may pride itself upon being the custodian of the true and ancient work, pure and simple.” It is the testimony of Past Grand High Priest, Companion Samuel C. Perkins, after visiting the Grand Chapter of England, and exemplifying to the Companions there the work as practiced by us, that they admitted that *that* work “is the ancient work as it had been formerly understood and practiced by the Craft in England.”

He adds “That work has been preserved by the care of this Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania unimproved upon and without modern innovation.”

Officers of subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction should not fail to impress upon the membership such direct and positive testimony as this.

Second.—That kind of progress is to be encouraged which consists both in adding to the numerical strength of the Chapters, and in securing for them a broader and more commanding influence in the communities where they are located. The Capitular degrees should be the objective point for every qualified candidate when he proposes to become a Royal Arch Mason,—not a mere step which he must necessarily take in his passage to something beyond. Teach him that the Mark Master, the Most Excellent Master, and the Royal Arch Companion has a key to all that has been hitherto unexplained in symbolic Masonry, and having reached the “summit” he cannot afford to abandon the vast range of treasure there revealed to every diligent student. The meetings of the Chapter must be well sustained by the Companions, whatever other attractions may arise. It is the business of the Royal Arch Mason to magnify the Capitular work, and make the Chapter attractive by such conventionalities as we have already intimated are in the line of legitimate progress.

In conclusion, while our creed and our inspiration are derived from antiquity, we are not compelled to spend our days as sojourners of the past, buried in the rubbish and ruin of the ages, but joyful in the present with its opportunities and hopeful for the future, we may reach forth to the possibilities of the coming century in an endeavor to advance the interests of the Fraternity which is so dear to us.

“From the sorrows of the past we turn the future age to scan
With its responsibilities for nations and for man;
But who can pierce those vasty depths with all their hopes and fears?
And who can mark the pulsing of the coming hundred years?
The eye of prophecy can see the Brotherhood of man,
Like a benison combining ev’ry home and every land,

And the Fatherhood of God reach out above the human race
Like a Royal Arch uniting human life and Godly grace,
'Till the future world inspired and exalted comes to be
One Universal Chapter in the cause of Masonry.
Then all the world in gratitude shall bless the hallowed morn
When God in special mercy smiled, and Masonry was born."

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following Appointments for the present Masonic year, commencing this day:

District Deputy Grand High Priests.

The County of Philadelphia will be under the M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Edward B. Spencer.

1. Companion John McKain, of Pittsburgh, for the Counties of Allegheny and Washington.

2. Companion William C. Thompson, of Butler, for the Counties of Beaver and Butler.

3. Companion Curtis G. Campbell, of Johnstown, for the Counties of Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland, Somerset and Cambria.

4. Companion John B. Sprenkel, of York, for the Counties of Lancaster, Adams and York.

5. Companion Fred M. Smith, of Chester, for the County of Delaware, and Chapter No. 223, of Chester County.

6. Companion John H. Shopp, of Harrisburg, for the Counties of Dauphin, Cumberland and Franklin.

7. Companion Joseph C. Egbert, of Wayne, for Chapters No. 190, 262 and 271, of Montgomery County, and No. 198, of Chester County.

8. Companion Albert R. Hoover, of Reading, for the Counties of Berks and Lebanon.

9. Companion Christian A. Seidel, of Pottsville, for the County of Schuylkill.

10. Companion Daniel Z. Walker, of Allentown, for the Counties of Lehigh and Carbon, and Chapter No. 216, of Northampton County.

11. Companion Henry L. Moore, of Wilkes-Barre, for the County of Luzerne, and Chapter No. 172, of Wyoming County.

12. Companion James H. Coddington, of Towanda, for the Counties of Bradford, Sullivan and Tioga.

13. Companion Charles E. Cooper, of Oil City, for the Counties of Warren, Venango and Forest.

14. Companion Joseph J. Lingle, of Emporium, for the Counties of Cameron and Elk, and Chapter No. 279, of McKean County.

15. Companion Daniel B. Else, of Williamsport, for the Counties of Lycoming, Clinton and Centre.

16. Companion William F. Shay, of Watsontown, for the County of Northumberland.

17. Companion Martin L. Shaffner, of Huntingdon, for the Counties of Mifflin, Bedford, Huntingdon, Juniata, Fulton, Perry, Clearfield and Blair.

18. Companion Peter Barkey, of Erie, for the Counties of Erie and Crawford.

19. Companion John C. Wallace, of New Castle, for the Counties of Mercer and Lawrence.

20. Companion John W. Farnsworth, of Danville, for the Counties of Montour and Columbia.

21. Companion Cyrus H. Blood, of Brookville, for the Counties of Jefferson, Clarion and Armstrong.

22. Companion Ellis H. Doan, of Coatesville, for the County of Chester, except Chapter No. 198, at Phoenixville, and Chapter No. 223, at Oxford.

23. Companion Edward R. W. Searle, of Susquehanna, for the Counties of Susquehanna and Wayne, except Chapter No. 180, at Montrose.

24. Companion Thomas Rose, of Ambler, for Bucks County, and Chapters Nos. 220 and 245, of Montgomery County.

25. Companion Samuel S. Yohe, of Easton, for the Counties of Northampton and Monroe, except Chapter No. 216, at Bethlehem.

26. Companion Reuben A. Zimmerman, of Scranton, for the County of Lackawanna, and Chapters No. 180, of Susquehanna County, and No. 205, of Wyoming County.

27. Companion William C. Walker, of Bradford, for the Counties of McKean and Potter, except Chapter No. 279, at Kane.

Grand Chaplains.

Comp. Rev. Henry S. Getz, of Philadelphia.

Comp. Rev. Charles M. Stock, D.D., of Hanover.

Comp. Rev. Benjamin F. Delo, of Clarion.

Comp. Rev. William B. Chalfant, of Philadelphia.

Comp. Rev. Will H. Hiller, of Wilkes-Barre.

Comp. Rev. Horace F. Fuller, of Philadelphia.

Comp. Rev. Thompson P. Ege, of Gettysburg.

Grand Captain of the Host.

Comp. James McCormick, of Chapter No. 250.

Grand Principal Sojourner.

Comp. Carl A. Sundstrom, of Chapter No. 175.

Grand Royal Arch Captain.

Comp. Franklin P. Mason, of Chapter No. 243.

Grand Master of Third Vail.

Comp. Adam H. Schmehl, of Chapter No. 237.

Grand Master of Second Vail.

Comp. Benjamin Eiseman, of Chapter No. 183.

Grand Master of First Vail.

Comp. John O'Donnel, of Chapter No. 91.

Grand Marshal.

Comp. George B. Wells, of Chapter No. 52.

Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.

Comp. Forrest E. Gordon, of Chapter No. 169.

Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.

Comp. Samuel Laughlin, of Chapter No. 232.

Grand Pursuivant.

Comp. Frank M. Highley, of Chapter No. 183.

Grand Tyler.

Comp. William B. Joslyn, of Chapter No. 175.

Committee on Jurisprudence.

M. E. Comp. George W. Kendrick, Jr., P. G. H. P.,

M. E. Comp. Hibbert P. John, P. G. H. P.,

M. E. Comp. George E. Wagner, P. G. H. P.,

M. E. Comp. James S. Barber, P. G. H. P.

In conjunction with the Most Excellent Grand High Priest

Committee on Appeals.

M. E. Comp. Alexander H. Morgan, P. G. H. P.,

Comp. Edward Perry,

Comp. George J. Benner,

Comp. Richard E. Cochran.

Comp. George W. Hall,

Committee on Finance.

M. E. Comp. Ezra S. Bartlett, P. G. H. P.,
Comp. M. Richards Mucklé,
Comp. Charles W. Packer,
Comp. William M. Donaldson,
Comp. Jacob W. Jackson.

Committee on By-Laws.

M. E. Comp. Edgar A. Tennis, P. G. H. P.,
M. E. Comp. Richard M. Johnson, P. G. H. P.,
Comp. Philip C. Shaffer,
Comp. Joseph M. Wiatt,
Comp. Louis M. Wagner.

Committee on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. Michael W. Jacobs, P. G. H. P.,
Comp. Stockton Bates,
Comp. Joshua L. Lyte,
Comp. James H. Coddington,
Comp. Francis H. Hemperley.

Committee on Charity.

Comp. Conrad B. Day,
Comp. Robert L. Holliday
Comp. William S. Semple.
Comp. William J. Diehl.
Comp. Samuel Diemer,

Committee on Printing and Publishing.

Comp. Harry I. McIntire, Jr.,
Comp. Alexander McCune,
Comp. John T. Beardsley,
Comp. James W. R. Washington,
Comp. Jacob Gläser.

Companion WILLIAM J. KELLY, Chairman of the Committee on Past Grand High Priests' Jewels, then spoke as follows :

I am sincerely glad to be called upon to perform the duty with which you have honored me to-night and to congratulate the Companions upon the fact that we have procured and presented to eleven of the Past Grand High Priests the Jewel of that office, which seems to me to be appropriate and which I think you will say is beautiful. Several opportunities were given to the Companions to judge of the appropriateness of the jewel by reason of the Committee having submitted the design from time to time for the criticism of the Grand Chapter. Now that they have been adopted and presented, I think it would be true to say that they are more to the Companions who have received them than the mere ring of gold set with stones. It shows them that we have made acknowledgment of our appreciation of their labors given cheerfully and covering many years, and always in an intelligent and indefatigable manner.

In the reminiscences that have been given us to-night by Past Grand High Priest Perkins I am reminded that 33 years ago I was appointed in this Grand Chapter as Grand Pursuivant, and with him traveled through the jurisdiction and also with him noted the great benefits to Royal Arch Masonry which have been accomplished by those visits. I am glad that the example set by him has been followed by all who have succeeded him in that station and they have added to the interest and unity of this Grand Chapter.

The responsibility resting upon a Grand High Priest is very considerable and when a man accepts that responsibility with the knowledge that it means work, labor, care and attention, he is very apt to give work, labor, care and attention, to your interest, and as a matter of fact every one of our Grand High Priests has been extremely faithful and industrious in that line.

We have been tardy in making acknowledgment to them, yet it is a matter of great pride to me that I was appointed Chairman of the Committee to prepare and procure the jewels that we presented to them, and in my opinion they most eminently deserve them. There has been prepared a twelfth Jewel. Most Excellent Grand High Priest, that I have been selected to present. Within the last few minutes we have had added to the list of Past Grand High Priests Companion Michael William Jacobs, who has now finished his complete term. I believe I could do no better than adopt what he so beautifully said to the eleven Past Grand High Priests whom he presented with jewels. With great and becoming modesty he disclaimed that any part of what he was going to say to them should apply to himself. Yet his disclaimer does not remove the fact that his deserving is just as great as that he pictured to those who have received their jewels. Probably had he not said what he did I might have used the general idea expressed by him in my address to you and him, but he having done so I adopt what he has said most fully and completely.

I would say that our Grand High Priest just retired is the modest, learned gentlemen who with good conscience has devoted himself to us throughout two terms that we have elected him. He has performed every duty that he has been called upon to do with cheerful courage and rare intelligence, and in presenting to him this little token we have honored ourselves more than we have honored him in the giving.

I desire now to present you, Companion Michael W. Jacobs, the youngest though by no means the least of our Past Grand High Priests with this jewel, and in doing so I beg to say to you that from the pleased countenances of the Companions before me I am sure they feel that what you now get you eminently deserve.

Let me add my personal congratulation and trust that you may live long and enjoy it.

Past Grand High Priest M. E. Companion MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS replied as follows :

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST:—I cannot say truthfully that this is a great surprise. I knew that twelve jewels had been purchased, and I knew that I had presented only eleven of them, and I could not presume that the twelfth was to be retained for two years, to be then presented to Companion Spencer. I said a few moments ago that the duty which I was about to perform was not only a pleasant but a delicate one, and surely it is a delicate matter to present Past Grand High Priests' jewels and to receive one at the same meeting. I have said so much this evening that I know you will not expect from me any extended remarks. I am painfully aware that the services I have rendered this Grand Chapter have been but feeble and imperfect, but I assure you that what I have done, imperfect though it may have been, has been done cheerfully, and with a heart full of affection for the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. I thank the Grand Chapter for the great honor that they have conferred upon me. I thank the members of the Grand Chapter for the uniform kindness they have shown me, and I thank the Grand Chapter for this beautiful gift, which shall ever be a reminder, if indeed any physical reminder is necessary, of the honors they have conferred upon me, of the kindness they have shown me, and of the many happy hours I have spent in the companionship of my brethren here. I thank the Grand Chapter, Most Excellent Sir, and I thank the Chairman of the Committee for the very kind words in which he has seen fit to make this presentation.

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at nine o'clock and ten minutes, P.M.

CHARLES CARY,
Grand Secretary.

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

OF

The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

- 1795, WILLIAM BALL.†
1796—1797, WILLIAM MOORE SMITH.†
1798—1802, JONATHAN BAYARD SMITH.
1802—1805, ISRAEL ISRAEL.†
1806—1813, JAMES MILNOR.†
1814, RICHARD TYBOUT.†
1815, SAMUEL F. BRADFORD.†
1816—1817, WALTER KERR.†
1818—1821, BAYSE NEWCOMB.†
1822—1823, JOSIAH RANDALL.†
1824—1825, MICHAEL NISBET.†
1826, JOHN STEELE, JR.†
1827, TRISTRAM B. FREEMAN.
1828, JOSEPH S. RILEY.†
1829—1831, JOHN M. READ.†
1832—1833, SAMUEL H. PERKINS.†
1834, ENOS S. GANDY.†
1835, JOHN Y. BLACK.†
1836—1840, JOSEPH R. CHANDLER.†
1841—1842, ALEXANDER DIAMOND.†
1843—1844, WILLIAM WHITNEY.†
1845—1846, WILLIAM BARGER.†

- 1847, JOHN McGRATH.†
1848, JOHN J. KRIDER.†
1849, JAMES SIMPSON.†
1850—1851, DAVID C. SKERRETT.†
1852—1853, EDWARD P. LESCURE.†
1854, ANTHONY BOURNONVILLE.†
1855—1856, HARMAN BAUGH.†
1857, JOHN C. SMITH.†
1858—1859, DANIEL THOMPSON.†
1860, BENJAMIN PARKE.†
1861, HARMAN YERKES.†
1862—1863, JEREMIAH L. HUTCHINSON.†
1864—1865, GEORGE W. WOOD.†
1866—1867, SAMUEL C. PERKINS.
1868—1869, GEORGE GRISCOM.†
1870—1871, MICHAEL NISBET.†
1872—1873, CHARLES E. MEYER.*
1874—1875, ANDREW ROBENO, JR.†
1876, GEORGE E. WAGNER,
1877—1878, ALFRED R. POTTER.†
1879—1880, WILLIAM C. HAMILTON.
1881—1882, HIBBERT P. JOHN.
1883—1884, AUGUSTUS R. HALL.†
1885—1886, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR.
1887—1888, MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON.
1889—1890, JAMES S. BARBER.
1891—1892, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN.
1893—1894, EDGAR A. TENNIS.
1895—1896, EZRA S. BARTLETT.
1897—1898, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.
1899—1900, MICHAEL W. JACOBS.

† Deceased.

* Expelled.



Augustus R. Hall

M. E. Grand High Priest

1883-1884

Our Dead.

“We knew them here, and with them wept and smiled:
Our life was one;
We met and parted, still of each beguiled;
Their work was done;
And they are resting in the morning land,
And we are toiling yet with heart and hand.”

In Memoriam.

REV. THOMAS B. ANGELL

Grand Chaplain.

DIED JANUARY 18, 1900.

ABNER S. BENDER

King of Chapter No. 162.

DIED FEBRUARY 6, 1900.

JOSEPH J. TAYLOR

King of Chapter No. 185.

DIED OCTOBER 29, 1900.

In Memoriam.

WILLIAM A. ATLEE

P. H. P. Chapter No. 43.

DIED FEBRUARY 24, 1900.

R. LLOYD LEE

P. H. P. Chapter No. 52.

DIED MAY 24, 1900.

GEORGE THOMSON

P. H. P. Chapter No. 91.

DIED JANUARY 13, 1900.

THOMAS W. RICHARDS

P. H. P. Chapter No. 159.

DIED JUNE 6, 1900.

JOHN M. SCOTT

P. H. P. Chapter No. 162.

DIED DECEMBER 4, 1900.

In Memoriam.

WILLIAM CHATLAND

P. H. P. Chapter No. 164.

DIED APRIL 11, 1900.

SILAS M. BAILEY

P. H. P. Chapter No. 165.

DIED MAY 5, 1900.

GEORGE B. BERGER

P. H. P. Chapter No. 170.

DIED OCTOBER 19, 1900.

JOHN A. WEAVER

P. H. P. Chapter No. 173.

DIED MARCH 22, 1900.

HERBERT THOMAS

P. H. P. Chapter No. 173.

DIED APRIL 20, 1900.

In Memoriam.

ROBERT C. FLOYD

P. H. P. Chapter No. 175.

DIED JUNE 12, 1900.

PHILIP STEIN

P. H. P. Chapter No. 177.

DIED AUGUST 11, 1900.

EDWIN ADAMS

P. H. P. Chapter No. 180.

DIED NOVEMBER 29, 1900.

LEVI HUBER

P. H. P. Chapter No. 196.

DIED APRIL 26, 1900.

HUGH N. COXE

P. H. P. Chapter No. 196.

DIED MAY 28, 1900.

In Memoriam.

CHRISTIAN F. CONRAD

P. H. P. Chapter No. 196.

DIED DECEMBER 1, 1900.

CHARLES J. NES

P. H. P. Chapter No. 199.

DIED MAY 10, 1900.

GEORGE W. HEIGES

P. H. P. Chapter No. 199.

DIED DECEMBER 3, 1900.

J. SIMPSON AFRICA

P. H. P. Chapter No. 201.

DIED AUGUST 8, 1900.

HORACE T. WHITNEY

P. H. P. Chapter No. 204.

DIED MAY 1, 1900.

In Memoriam.

GRANT W. LANE

P. H. P. Chapter No. 204.

DIED OCTOBER 8, 1900.

JOHN P. SHERWOOD

P. H. P. Chapter No. 206.

DIED APRIL 12, 1900.

WILLIAM MORTIMER

P. H. P. Chapter No. 208.

DIED JANUARY 10, 1900.

HENRY S. RORER

P. H. P. Chapter No. 208.

DIED AUGUST 23, 1900.

W. R. H. DEATRICH

P. H. P. Chapter No. 209.

DIED MAY 2, 1900.

In Memoriam.

ORSON A. CARLIN

P. H. P. Chapter No. 212.

DIED FEBRUARY 7, 1900.

JOSEPH JOHNSTON

P. H. P. Chapter No. 216.

DIED JANUARY 2, 1900.

JAMES S. McKEAN

P. H. P. Chapter No. 217.

DIED APRIL 29, 1900.

JOSEPH H. ELTON

P. H. P. Chapter No. 217.

DIED JULY 7, 1900.

WILLIAM H. SLACK

P. H. P. Chapter No. 217.

DIED DECEMBER 21, 1900.

In Memoriam.

HIRAM T. KING

P. H. P. Chapter No. 228.

DIED AUGUST 17, 1900.

LEWIS B. CUSSMAN

P. H. P. Chapter No. 245.

DIED MARCH 14, 1900.

JOSEPH S. SMITH

P. H. P. Chapter No. 247.

DIED APRIL 10, 1900.

N. FERREE LICHTNER

P. H. P. Chapter No. 250.

DIED APRIL 20, 1900.

EDWIN L. EVANS

P. H. P. Chapter No. 251.

DIED MARCH 27, 1900.

In Memoriam.

ALFRED PALMER

P. H. P. Chapter No. 252.

DIED FEBRUARY 26, 1900.

DAVID W. LLEWELLYN

P. H. P. Chapter No. 257.

DIED FEBRUARY 21, 1900.

WILLIAM K. JONES

P. H. P. Chapter No. 263.

DIED FEBRUARY 3, 1900.

GEORGE W. BROOKS

P. H. P. Chapter No. 267.

DIED AUGUST 3, 1900.

FRANKLIN B. SPEAKMAN

P. H. P. Chapter No. 267.

DIED SEPTEMBER 9, 1900.

Report on Correspondence.

The proceedings of the different Grand Chapters with whom we are in correspondence, have been assigned to the members of our Committee in the following order :

Alabama	}	Matthias H. Henderson, P. G. H. P.
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Canada		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
England		

Florida	}	Stockton Bates.
General Grand Chapter.....		
Georgia		
Illinois		
Indiana		
Indian Territory		
Iowa		
Ireland		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		

Maine	}	J. Simpson Africa.
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
Montana		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Brunswick.....		

New Hampshire.....	}	Joshua L. Lyte.
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Nova Scotia		
Ohio		
Oregon		
Quebec		
Rhode Island		
Scotland		
South Carolina	}	James H. Coddington.
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Vermont		
Victoria		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		

In Symbolic Masonry there are certain well defined regulations which are universally observed and are termed landmarks. In Capitular Masonry there are also customs which from the fact that they have been observed from time immemorial may be designated as Capitular landmarks. Prominent among these are that the Royal Arch degree cannot be conferred on one who is not in possession of certain other degrees; that no one can prove himself to be a Royal Arch Mason unless at least three are present, himself included; and that the Royal Arch degree cannot be conferred on a greater or less number than three at one and the same time. Concerning the last there is a difference of opinion as to whether all of the three must be actual candidates, that is, brethren who are receiving the degree for the first time or whether in the absence of a sufficient number their places may be supplied by one or two companions who

have had the degree conferred upon them previously, and who for the time being are called substitutes.

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has never taken any action on the subject that we know of, but from time beyond memory their use has been permitted and is permitted to-day. The convenience of the candidate is thereby consulted and the work of the Chapter is forwarded and promoted. The substitute is to all intents and purposes a candidate. He is prepared exactly as he was when he was exalted himself. He makes the same responses and goes through the same ceremonies. Nothing is changed. There are no additions or omissions and a visitor to the Chapter could not distinguish between the substitute and the candidate. The degree is fully conferred and every condition and requirement of the ancient regulation is fulfilled.

A few Grand Chapters forbid the use of substitutes, for what reason we do not know, and we believe this prohibition may work great harm to the Chapter as well as injustice to its members. In large chapters located in populous places there would probably be so much work that the necessity for the use of substitutes would not be frequent, but in small Chapters where there was less work we imagine that in many instances a brother Most Excellent Master would be obliged to wait a longer or shorter period at inconvenience to himself until other brethren had attained his degree and opened to the requisite number the door to the Royal Arch mysteries. We have heard of instances where brethren have died while thus waiting and thus lost forever that to which they had been lawfully elected, for which they had paid their money, and to which they were justly entitled. There is another objection to the prohibition of the use of substitutes which we think is a very serious one. In their anxiety to complete a trio the companions would not so carefully scrutinize the worth of some petitioner and might close their eyes to glaring defects in his character. This is a

possibility which demands weighty consideration, as the welfare and sometimes the very existence of a chapter depends on who compose its membership. This subject is open for discussion, and we would be pleased if our companions who hold a contrary opinion from ours would present their arguments in support of their position. Some Grand Chapters permit the use of one substitute. If one why not two?

Every Mark Master Mason is presumed to have a Mark which should be recorded in a book kept for that purpose by the Secretary of the Chapter. In Pennsylvania the candidate is enjoined when he receives the degree to select and record his mark within four months, but we fear many violate their promise. We have never hesitated to uphold our Grand Chapter against all the world when we believed her to be right, but will not do so when we think her position a weak one. In the recording of marks our practice does not secure the object desired, and we think we might with profit follow the example of those Grand Chapters which require the mark to be recorded before the Royal Arch degree can be conferred. We believe that nothing short of heroic treatment will secure in Pennsylvania universal observance of this essential of the Mark degree.

In reading the proceedings that come under our notice we are impressed with the great number of dispensations that are granted to confer the degrees out of time and the number of them arouses the doubt that all are cases of actual necessity. We would not prohibit the granting of such dispensations because there are no doubt meritorious cases when the dispensing power may with propriety be used. These exceptional cases are not liable to present themselves oftener than once in several years in the same jurisdiction, while we have noted instances where a Grand High Priest has granted several such

dispensations during the single year of his term. A brother who has lived for years in a community without applying for the Chapter degrees and then being on the eve of a prolonged absence has a sudden desire to become a Royal Arch Mason is not in our opinion deserving of a dispensation. The ritual of Freemasonry, let alone the symbolism of its degrees, is not received in such a manner to prove themselves to be Masons among strangers. We think no good can come from such haste.

Nor do we think the usual delays which a petition to the Chapter is subjected to should be dispensed with in order to expedite the applicant's entrance into those bodies for which the Chapter degrees are preparatory. Such a dispensation would be solely for the convenience of the candidate and would be of real benefit to no one, Capitular Masonry least of all.

The Committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand High Priest of Alabama in 1891, believing that the dispensing power was in danger of being abused used the following language in their report:

"We would most respectfully suggest that the too frequent use of the dispensing power—especially in the granting of dispensations to confer the Chapter degrees in a shorter time than required by our laws—is of doubtful propriety, and ought not to be invoked by our Chapters except for urgent reasons."

The sentiment of the above is commendable but the Grand High Priest should be the sole and only judge of the urgency of the request.

The Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania is empowered by our Constitution to grant such dispensations and a form of petition for the dispensation, and one for the dispensation itself is found in the appendix to our Constitution; but meritorious cases for their use are so seldom presented that the prerogative has almost become obsolete.

The attention of the writer has been called by Companion Lyte to the Report for 1900 of M. E. Companion E. T. D. Chambers, P. G. Z., Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, in which he considers our action in declining recognition to the so-called Grand Chapter of New Zealand inconsistent, and comments on some expressions of the writer. Concerning our reasons for declining to recognize New Zealand the one alleging lack of further information he pronounces quite sufficient, but that the other, viz.: that it had not the allegiance of all the Chapters in its territory, is not in accordance with precedents established by our Grand Chapter, or with our statement that Masonry in Pennsylvania does not change. He characterizes our statement that a so-called Supreme Masonic Body which has not the allegiance of all the bodies in its territory, is not entitled to recognition as such, as extraordinary, and says this remarkable contention is not in keeping with the past policy of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania; that if it was the Grand Chapter of Quebec would never have been recognized by us. He cannot approve our action without assuming that we have erred in the past and that Quebec is not entitled to the recognition it enjoys at the hands of her sister Grand Chapters.

The foregoing is a fair synopsis of Companion Chambers' criticism of our action, and we think we can answer him in few words.

The fact that Quebec has not the allegiance of all the Chapters in her territory is not news to us; we have known it ever since we have given attention to such matters, but have refrained from mentioning it because the subject is not a pleasant one. It is nothing to the credit of any Grand Chapter, and if we were Companion Chambers we would say as little about it as possible. Disagreeable family matters are best avoided.

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized by the Grand

Chapter of Pennsylvania about twenty-two years ago, long before our present Committee had anything to do with such questions and before most of us were active in Grand Chapter affairs. We found it here and have quietly let it remain. In closing the subject let us remind Companion Chambers of this wholesome truth: That because the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania may have committed an error in recognizing the Grand Chapter of Quebec it would not be justified in repeating the error by recognizing the Grand Chapter of New Zealand; and we would also remind him that it is not too late to rectify any mistake we may have made in the case of Quebec. He does not say we were wrong in refusing recognition to New Zealand but that he cannot say we were right without acknowledging that his own Grand Chapter has no right to the place she occupies among regular Grand Chapters.

Since our last report our Committee has sustained a heavy loss in the death of Companion J. Simpson Africa, which event occurred at his home in Huntingdon, Pa., August 8, 1900. He was appointed a member of this Committee December 27, 1892, and served continuously until his decease.

Companion Africa was born in Huntingdon September 15, 1832, and was therefore in his sixty-eighth year. He was educated in the schools and academy of his native town and became a surveyor and civil engineer. He was public spirited and always manifested a pride in Huntingdon serving as councilman and burgess, encouraging improvements and fostering its interests by every means in his power. Although his business engagements required his presence in Philadelphia for some years before his death he never relinquished his legal residence in Huntingdon and was accustomed to go there at every election to vote. In politics he was a Democrat, the minority party in Pennsylvania. Notwithstanding, he was elected county sur-

vevor in 1853 having at that time barely attained his majority. In 1858-1859 he was a clerk in the State Senate, and in the latter year was elected to represent Huntingdon County in the legislature. His political successes were the more remarkable that they were attained in districts which ordinarily gave large Republican majorities. He rendered his most distinguished service to Pennsylvania as Secretary of Internal Affairs. Although defeated for the office in 1878 the vote given him made even the defeat a triumph. In 1882 he received the unanimous nomination of his party and was triumphantly elected, serving the State with credit to his constituents and to himself.

In religion he was a member of the Presbyterian Church at Huntingdon and served it as trustee and treasurer. His daily life was consistent with his religious profession.

He was for a time Cashier of the First National Bank of Huntingdon and in 1882 assisted in forming The Union Trust Company of Philadelphia of which he was elected President in 1887, serving until his death.

His Masonic life began in Mount Moriah Lodge No. 300, at Huntingdon, where he was initiated January 16, 1866. In 1869 he was elected Secretary, and in 1871 Junior Warden. In 1873 he was elected Worshipful Master and served during 1874. He received the Capitular degrees in Standing Stone R. A. Chapter No. 201, at Huntingdon and in 1868 was elected Secretary, serving until 1872 when he was elected Scribe, and High Priest in 1874 serving during 1875.

In 1884 he was elected R. W. Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and, as is our custom, after serving for two years in each of the intermediate stations, he was elected R. W. Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania in 1890, serving during 1891, in December of which year he was re-elected and served during 1892. His administration was not marked by any unusual occurrence. Cerneauism and

other spurious Masonic bodies which a few years previously had ventured to raise their heads in Pennsylvania had been effectually throttled. The Craft were at peace. In the performance of his duties he was vigilant and active. His visitations covered every section of the State and he watched with a careful eye every interest of the Craft. To use his own language in his address to the Grand Lodge when he retired from office, "I have not wittingly abated a jot of the dignity of my station nor permitted any infringement of the Landmarks, ancient usages, or customs of the Fraternity." That the Grand Lodge was sensible of the able manner in which he had served it is indicated by the following which was offered by Past Grand Master Richard Vaux December 27, 1892, and unanimously adopted.

"Right Worshipful the Honorable J. SIMPSON AFRICA has this day closed his official term established by the custom of this Grand Lodge as Grand Master."

"It is due to the eminent service, the clear judgment, the ability, discretion, and courtesy which has marked the administration of the duties of his high station to acknowledge the obligation the Craft in the Grand Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania is under to Grand Master AFRICA for courageous efforts to maintain the Landmarks and regulations of Masonry; wherefore this minute be entered on the records of Grand Lodge, and a duly certified copy thereof be sent to Grand Master AFRICA."

His interest in the Grand Lodge did not cease with his retirement from the Oriental Chair. He continued to be a regular attendant and served for several years as Chairman of the Committee on Temple, one of the most important Committees of the Grand Lodge, one that has large property interests in its care. In 1895 he was appointed one of a Committee to revise the Ahiman Rezon, and in 1896 one of a similar Committee to revise the Constitution of this Grand Chapter. His knowledge of Masonic law made him a valuable and efficient member of these Committees. This same knowledge of Masonic law together

with an intimate acquaintance with Masonic history, and the facility of expressing himself forcibly and clearly rendered him peculiarly fitted for the duties of such a Committee as ours. From the day of his appointment he displayed marked ability and keen interest in his work and met the questions which came before him fairly and impartially and with no other desire than to render justice where it might be due.

It has been said that no man is of such consequence that his place cannot be filled. This is doubtless true, and while Companion Africa's place may be filled, his work, and the impress he made on Masonry will not be forgotten.

In the business world his name was the synonym of integrity. We believe he discharged every trust committed to him with absolute honesty as well as marked ability. There was never even the smell of fire upon his garments, and nothing stuck to his hands which did not belong to them. The writer knew him in business and also as a Mason and considers the above estimate a just one.

His personality was most pleasing; courteous and genial at all times, of fine presence, his attire always neat and in good taste, his temper equable, his speech discreet, his words clean and well chosen. He was temperate in all his habits. His character may be summed up as follows: In business he was honorable and honest; in society his port was that of a refined gentleman; in Masonry he revered the landmarks and loved the brotherhood; in religion he was a devout and conscientious Christian. What more can we say of him? Let us leave him with his God whom he feared, loved, honored, served.

The death of Companion Africa made necessary a re-distribution of the publications of other Jurisdictions which were formerly assigned to him.

Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts and Michigan have been assigned to Companion Stockton Bates.

Minnesota, Mississippi and Missouri have been assigned to Companion Joshua L. Lyte.

Montana, Nebraska and Nevada have been assigned to Companion James H. Coddington.

M. H. H.

ALABAMA.

The Seventy-third Annual Convocation was held in the Masonic Temple at Montgomery, December 4 and 5, 1899. M. E. Companion Edward S. Gatchell, Grand High Priest presided. His address is not a lengthy paper and deals principally with domestic matters. He pays tribute to the dead of his own and other jurisdictions and states that he had granted dispensations to three different Chapters to receive and ballot forthwith upon petitions for the degrees and membership. He reported three official visitations which closed his official acts.

The Grand Secretary, Companion H. Clay Armstrong, made a report on "Condition of the Royal Craft" which is interesting as it gives us more information on that subject than we receive from any other source. He regrets to say that in some sections of the state Royal Arch Masonry is on the wane. He reports the loss of eight Chapters which can be attributed to no other cause than the apathy of their one hundred and forty-nine members. In other localities conditions are better and he reports the resuscitation of two dormant Chapters and the organization of one new one. He made visitations to seven Chapters spending several days with each, assisting in conferring the degrees and giving instruction in the ritual with satisfactory results. He directed the attention of the Grand Chapter to the negligence of the Companions in recording their marks and recommended action that would compel compliance with the regulation.

The Grand Chapter concurred in his views for a preamble and resolution was adopted stating that whereas the traditions of the Mark Master's Degree make it obligatory and imperative upon every one who has received it to choose for himself a mark, that it shall be the duty of the High Priest of every Chapter in Alabama whenever a candidate is announced for the Royal Arch Degree to ascertain from the Secretary if such candidate has chosen a mark and had it recorded in the Book of Marks and that the Royal Arch Degree shall not be conferred upon any candidate until such record is made. The foregoing meets with our entire approval. We believe such a regulation should be a Royal Arch landmark.

Companion William Y. Titcomb writes the Report on Correspondence, taking the place which for so many years was filled with ability by Companion Palmer Job Pillans. Companion Titcomb gives us an interesting review of forty-six Grand Chapters and the manner in which he handles his material leads us to believe that the mantle of his predecessor has fallen upon one worthy to wear it.

He is sound on the question of dependent membership, saying that companions should never turn up their noses at the "Blue" as the Chapter was cradled therein, and, so to speak, raised by the Lodge.

On a correspondent who asserts that Masonry is progressive in the multiplication of genuine degrees, and Masonic bodies, he comments as follows:

"But where will this multiplication end? It may be that in the continued cutting up of degrees, or additions to them, the time will come when some of us who are, possibly, regarded as fossils, may utterly fail to recognize our beloved Institution in the new ceremonials and rituals which may from time to time, be engrafted upon it. * * *

"Why not progress upon the lines of the degrees as they stand, ever striving to comprehend their full significance, and to exemplify their teachings? After a while, under the new science, a spade may no longer be

the time worn implement on which the old sexton leaned, but some new-fangled device of which none had ever heard. A spade is a spade, and an innovation is an innovation. Let the 'seeker for light' see 'his opportunity for a new application of an old rule of action,' and use it, but don't let him call his new application the old one, that is to say—Masonry.

"We have the Royal Craft, and let us keep it; it is all right, but for Masonry's sake let us construct no more degrees. We have enough."

We agree. We have enough degrees, and if we keep pure what we have we will have done Masonry a better service than any multiplication of degrees would.

He says it seems a great pity that the employment of substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch Degree cannot in all cases be prohibited and that their use constitutes a sham. Will he please tell us why? We are anxious to be enlightened. If he has read our introduction he knows how we stand on this question.

He asks what kind of characters or emblems constitute a Mark. In Pennsylvania the candidate is instructed that his mark may be any design his fancy may select.

He notices Pennsylvania in a fraternal review of more than two pages. He gives a synopsis of our proceedings with favorable comment, and of M. E. Companion Jacobs' inaugural he says:

"His utterances evinced careful consideration of those responsibilities and duties which this promotion devolved upon him."

We did not agree with Companion Pillans that the Past Master's degree is utterly useless, and said it is very useful where it belongs. Companion Titcomb asks the question, "But where does it belong?" If he will acknowledge that he does not know where it belongs and that his query is solely for the purpose of gaining information we will answer him in our next report. Concerning the degree he expresses his own opinion that in the Chapter it seems an utter misfit, it looks lonesome, like a cat in a strange garret. Yet he asks where it belongs.

ARIZONA.

The proceedings which have come to us of the Tenth Annual Convocation held at Tucson, November 15, 1899, are very meagre.

M. E. Companion James D. Monihon, Grand High Priest, presided. He visited officially two of the five Chapters and had two of the remaining three visited by proxy. All are reported to be in a flourishing condition. There were forty-one exaltations, a gain in membership of thirty-eight and one new Chapter was constituted. He had not been asked to make any decisions, and stated that peace and harmony prevailed in a delightful degree. He gave the Chapters some excellent advice in regard to the care of their funds and the necessity of making proper rules for their disbursement, that temptation might not be thrown in the way of those charged with their care.

The Committee on Finance to whom that part of the address was referred recommended that as the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were required to give bonds for the faithful discharge of their duties, so should the Chapters demand some similar security from their Treasurers and Secretaries. The recommendation was concurred in.

The Grand Treasurer was authorized to invest the funds of the Grand Chapter in good securities as often as he had five hundred dollars in his hands. This places a heavy responsibility on him making him the judge of the value of the security.

The Committee on Correspondence made a report of four lines recommending that the appointments by the Grand High Priest of Grand Representatives during the past year be confirmed, which was concurred in.

The longer we live the more we learn. We have always supposed that Committees on Correspondence were appointed

to review the proceedings of other Grand Chapters and Masonic Bodies and select therefrom such matter as they may deem desirable for publication with their own comments thereon. We never knew before that they had any supervision or censorship over the official actions of their Grand High Priest.

ARKANSAS.

The Fiftieth Annual Convocation was held at Little Rock, November, 22, 1899.

Companion J. H. Kennerly, the Grand High Priest presided. In his address he states that he had granted dispensations to ballot upon petitions for the degrees without waiting the lawful time, and to elect and install officers at irregular times. He states that one reason for asking for these dispensations was the difficulty in procuring a quorum at stated convocations and that his own experience had made him regard this reason a *very* valid one.

He was asked the following question :

“Can a Companion who is engaged in the saloon business be installed into office in a Chapter?”

He answered in the affirmative saying that he knew of no law to the contrary. This did not meet the views of the Committee on Jurisprudence to whom that part of the address was referred. They reported that while the decision was technically correct, they thought in view of the law of the Grand Lodge, and to put the Grand Chapter in the proper light before the Craft, that they should recommend the adoption of the following :

“*Resolved*, That hereafter no person who is engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors shall be eligible to hold an office in a subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction.”

In the minds of some the foregoing did not go far enough and Companion R. M. Smith offered a resolution to prohibit the conferring of the Chapter degrees on anyone who is engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors; and to require members who are now engaged in such traffic to discontinue the same, which resolution was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

The Committee reported back the resolution, which was read, considered and amended to read as follows:

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the resolution of Companion R. M. Smith in regard to the liquor traffic, have duly considered the same and recommend its adoption, with amendments as follows:

"That hereafter no person who is engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors shall become a member of any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter; and all members who are now engaged in such business shall be given until January 1, 1901, in which to disengage themselves therefrom, under penalty of being charged with unmasonic conduct.

"It shall be the duty of each subordinate Chapter to faithfully execute the above edict; and the Grand High Priest shall ascertain of the Chapters if it has been enforced and report all delinquent Chapters to the Grand Chapter.

"The Secretary of each subordinate Chapter shall notify every one so engaged who lives in the jurisdiction of his Chapter of the existence of this law."

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed by the Committee.)

On motion the report and the resolution as amended were adopted.

It revives a subject which has received our attention in former reports and upon which we have expressed our opinion in no uncertain sound.

We have always understood the qualifications of a petitioner for the degrees to be: First, a firm belief in the eternal God, the great Architect and Ruler of the universe, the embodiment of all justice, and who is omnipotent to destroy or save.

In addition, that he shall be a man; freeborn; that he has reached maturity, and is able to make intelligent use of his reason; that he is perfect in all his limbs and members; and that he is of good moral character. We have never heard that any other qualifications were necessary, and are confident that the Ancient Charges did not exclude any class of men on account of the business in which they might be engaged. We have also had it enjoined upon us at the very threshold of our masonic career that good Masons should be peaceable citizens yielding cheerful obedience to the laws of their country. Many honorable men who are good citizens are engaged in the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. They obey the law and their business is under the sanction of law and good Masons should not ostracize those whom the law protects.

We are constrained to believe that our companions of Arkansas have introduced a regulation into their western Masonry which is an innovation, and as such is not sanctioned by the fundamental law of our fraternity and its long established usage and custom. To our mind it places the Grand Chapter of Arkansas in an improper light before the Craft.

The fact should not be lost sight of that while Freemasonry inculcates temperance as it does all other virtues, it does not enjoin total abstinence. Many people are not able to understand that the former does not mean the latter. Another thing should be remembered: the question whether intoxicants are injurious to those who use them is not under discussion and has nothing to do with our subject.

In closing his address Companion Kennerly made a recommendation that commends itself to every thoughtful Mason, viz.: that some plan be devised by which the Chapters may become more proficient in the work of the degrees. This he said could be done by visitations of the Grand Lecturer or by schools of instruction. In his visitations he found that very

few Chapters could confer the degrees in the impressive manner in which it should be done.

On motion a donation of fifty dollars was made to an absent Past Grand High Priest as a token of good will, and the Grand Secretary was directed to forward the amount to him.

The Report on Correspondence consists of sixteen lines and is signed by Companion R. J. Laughlin. It contains nothing requiring our notice. No reason is given for the absence of the amplified form of report which has been made by the Committee in former years.

CALIFORNIA.

We have not received the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1900, but have been favored with the advance sheets of the Report of the Committee on Correspondence of which Companion William A. Davies is Chairman. He has opinions on many subjects which makes his report an interesting one. We do not think a report worth reading which is nothing but a collection of the views of other people, and would not give house room to reviewers who are afraid to say what they think even if we do not agree with them.

He gives Companion Bennett, of Canada, a gentle tap for using initials instead of the full given name, and we think his mild rebuke should be heeded.

He favors the use of substitutes when necessary in conferring the Royal Arch degree. In our introduction the writer has given at length the position of Pennsylvania on this subject.

In his review of Indiana he speaks of 1899 as the closing year of the century. If he will tell us in his next review how he supports that statement we will tell him why we think he is mistaken.

Speaking of the liquor question in Masonry he says it makes him thirsty to think of absolute prohibition. We infer that he does not object to an occasional "smile," and that he has too proper an appreciation of justice and the fitness of things to refuse the privileges of Freemasonry to an applicant because he is a liquor dealer.

He favors "continuous membership," which is to us a new name for dependent membership.

Councils to confer the Order of High Priesthood do not find any favor in his eyes. We have nothing of the kind in Pennsylvania and seem to have gotten along quite well for a hundred years or so without them, at the same time having the Order in all its purity and without any additional cost to the recipient.

He condemns acts of incorporation, believing them to be fraught with dangerous possibilities. These are proper terms in which to speak of the modern fad of incorporating Masonic bodies. As to protecting any rights of Masonry or conferring any special privileges it does not do it. Acts of incorporation confer upon the incorporator the right to summon and interrogate the incorporated, which as Companion Davies says, in the case of a Masonic body is fraught with dangerous possibilities. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania holds real estate worth one million and a half dollars, the title to which is vested in trustees appointed by the Grand Master. In the more than one hundred and sixty years of its existence it has at different times bought and sold realty, and has never had any trouble in holding or conveying a good title. Had such a thing been discussed when Masonry was born we doubt not the prohibition to incorporate would have been made one of the landmarks which our ancient brethren framed so wisely and so well.

The last reviewed is Pennsylvania for 1899, it and a few others having been received late. Companion Davies in referring to M. E. Companion Jacobs' address speaks of it as a most

excellent one, and regrets that he has not the time to do justice to it. After reading it he was quite prepared to learn of the re-election of one so well qualified for a seat on the Royal Arch throne.

He characterizes our report as an "omnibus" one and alludes to it in kindly terms.

We have enjoyed reading and commenting upon Companion Davies' admirable report, and while it is many times better than nothing from California we hope that we will in the future as long as we engage in this work receive more full information of their proceedings.

CANADA.

The Forty-second Annual Convocation was held at London, January 24, 1900. Most Excellent Companion W. G. Reid, Grand Z. on the throne.

In his address he stated that the Royal Craft was enjoying a period of steady prosperity. His numerous visits to the Chapters convinced him of the undoubted strength of Freemasonry as a cementing influence. He everywhere found the spirit of true brotherhood, and, except in one or two solitary instances where little jealousies exercised a brief sway, and perhaps retarded progress for a time, he witnessed only good fellowship and an ever increasing desire to help one another in the battle of life.

He made twenty-nine official visitations, which we consider a very creditable number.

Two decisions noted were in accordance with well established principles of Masonic law.

He attended the centennial celebration of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts at Boston, which he designates, "the cradle

of Royal Arch Masonry on this continent." Where was our Jerusalem Chapter No. 3, when that cradle was being rocked?

The finances are in capital shape, the assets consisting of \$19,000 worth of bonds paying four per cent. interest, and cash to the amount of \$2,173.57, a total of \$21,173.57. There are no debts. Among the disbursements we note, "Orders on Benevolence, \$430" and "Hospital for sick children, \$500," proving that our Canadian Companions are not remiss in the exercise of Masonic charity. They are also patriotic for the Committee on Audit and Finance recommended that the sum of three hundred dollars be donated to the "National Patriotic Fund," that has for its object the welfare of those dependent upon Canadian soldiers who voluntarily went to South Africa in defense of the British Empire. They also recommended that the Grand Chapter purchase five sets of Most Excellent Companion J. Ross Robertson's work, "History of Freemasonry in Canada," one set to be presented to the Mother Grand Chapter of England; one each to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the Grand Chapter of Victoria; and two sets to be retained. Both recommendations were adopted.

The Report on Correspondence occupies the appendix to the volume and is again furnished by Companion George J. Bennett. In his introduction he says:

"Prof. Huxley was once sitting at dinner beside a lady who, in solemn tones, asked him whether he did not think it a very terrible thing that Rev. Mr. Jones, the vicar, should have adopted the eastward position in administering the sacrament. 'My dear lady,' he replied. 'I am told by Sir John Herschel that to drop a pea at the end of every mile of a voyage on a limitless ocean to the distance of the nearest fixed star would require a fleet of ten thousand ships, each of six hundred tons burden, all starting with a full cargo of peas. Now do you really suppose that the Maker of the fixed stars considers this new position of Mr. Jones a serious thing?'"

We infer from the above that he would not place undue importance on non-essentials.

On the action of the Grand Chapter, of Alabama, in agreeing to confer the degrees on ministers gratuitously he comments in words which have our cordial endorsement. He thinks it fraught with great risk, as it is a distinct violation of the great principle of equality which is one of the basic features of our fraternity. He regards the amendment as an ugly blot upon the beautiful symbolism of the level, and hopes Alabama will reconsider and erase it.

He believes in independent membership and says :

“To provide that an applicant for the Chapter degrees shall be an affiliated Master Mason is right and certainly a qualification within the province of the lawmaker; but is it not stepping beyond the limit, to add that he shall be excluded from the Chapter if he ceases to continue his connection with the blue lodge?”

To the mind of the writer the above is very inconsistent. Why set a qualification for an applicant for the Chapter degrees and remove it when he has attained membership? As the Lodge is the foundation of Masonry it should be supported by every Mason of whatever degree.

Pennsylvania for 1898 receives a fraternal notice.

COLORADO.

The Twenty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Denver, September 21, 1899.

Companion Jethro C. Sanford, Grand High Priest, presided. In his address he pays tribute to the dead and reports a large amount of routine business transacted. He says no applications for the formation of new Chapters were received, which he does not consider a matter of regret. Although some correspondence to that end was received from a number of companions living remote from a Chapter, upon their showing he strongly advised them to take no action at that time. He is of the opin-

ion that it is better to use their energies in putting more life into those Chapters they have than to add others that may flourish for a time and when they have exhausted the available material go into decline. He recognizes the fact that the age is a progressive one, but is of the opinion that the good old fashioned way is the best way to advance in Masonry, and that we should discourage any improvements, by which we suppose he means innovations. Believing that we should become familiar with masonic teaching before receiving further light he refused several requests for dispensations to confer the degrees without waiting the required time, and also to issue a general dispensation for the same purpose as requested by one of the promoters of the Royal and Select Master's celebration in the preceding August. We endorse his action which we believe to be for the good of the fraternity. He closes with this worthy proverb:

"Whatever is wrong, let us correct in the spirit of brotherly love, and that which is right, encourage."

The various standing committees made reports which contain nothing of special interest to us except that of the Committee on Finance who recommended an increase of the per capita tax on members from fifty cents to sixty cents in order to provide for an annual deficit in the revenues of the Grand Chapter of about two hundred dollars, which recommendation was adopted. Of this we shall have more to say hereafter.

Coming events cast their shadows before and we are not surprised to hear that Companion Marshall H. Dean was elected Grand High Priest. We have watched his progress in Masonry with much interest from the fact that he is a Pennsylvanian by birth and was made a Mason in a Pennsylvania lodge, having been initiated in Lodge of the Craft, No. 433, F. & A. M., at New Castle, of which Lodge the writer is a Past Master.

Companion Dean was exalted in Delta R. A. Chapter, No. 170, at New Castle, and served one year as Captain of the Host. The writer also received his degrees in Delta Chapter. While we know it is not uncommon for a Chapter to furnish two or even more Grand High Priests from its membership we think old Delta has something to her credit that few can claim, viz.: that two of her former members have attained the pinnacle of Capitular power and fame, and each in a different jurisdiction, one in Pennsylvania and the other in Colorado. Companion Dean in time withdrew from these bodies and removed to Colorado where he made new affiliations. His Masonic life there is indicative of much zeal and devotion to the interests of the Craft. He affiliated with Carbondale Lodge, No. 82, F. & A. M., and served for two years as its Worshipful Master. He dimitted from this Lodge to Glenwood Lodge, No. 65, F. & A. M., and at the same meeting at which he was elected a member he was elected Worshipful Master, a most unusual occurrence, and of this Lodge he also served as Master for two years. He is a member of Glenwood Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M. at Glenwood Springs of which Chapter he was High Priest for six years. He writes us that while there are many bright, good and true Masons in Colorado he will always have a very warm spot in his heart for his masonic brethren in Pennsylvania. We assure him that his brethren in New Castle extend to him their sincere and heart-felt congratulations upon the honors he has achieved in his western home, with the wish that he may live long to enjoy them.

The Report on Correspondence is again furnished by P. G. H. P. Comp. E. L. N. Foster. He thinks that when a companion who is free of all charges applies for a dimit he is entitled to it; in other words, that his motive in resigning should not be questioned. We agree. It is no person's business but his.

He thinks too much legislation is bad, both in masonry and politics, and that if our legislatures met less frequently the country would thrive better.

In reviewing Pennsylvania he quotes approvingly from the inaugural address of M. E. Companion Jacobs where he states his firm belief in the settled policy of our Grand Chapter to steadfastly adhere to our ancient landmarks, and to firmly resist the introduction of innovations, and his remarks concerning the hasty conferring of degrees.

He wishes he could introduce in Colorado the Pennsylvania law requiring six months to intervene between the reception of the Master's degree and the application to the Chapter. There is no such regulation in our Constitution, but the effect is the same as though there was. In Pennsylvania the ceremony of passing to the chair is controlled by the Grand Lodge and it is a custom of many years' standing that a dispensation to pass to the chair will only be granted to a Master Mason of six months' standing. As one of the qualifications of an applicant to our Chapters is that he must be a past master either by election or dispensation it has the effect of restraining those who have not passed the probationary period. Apropos to the above we would ask Companion Foster if he has overlooked By-Law 46^b of his Grand Chapter which reads:

"No subordinate Chapter shall receive and act upon the (sic) petition for Capitular degrees unless the applicant has resided within the jurisdiction of that Chapter during the immediate preceding six months, and shall have been a Master Mason for that period."

It would seem to the writer that our regulations on this question are as alike as two peas. Is it possible that it is disregarded? We ask Companion Foster to explain.

In Colorado the Royal Arch degree is not conferred until the applicant has selected and recorded his mark, which we believe to be an improvement on our custom.

Companion Foster believes it would be to the interests of the Royal Craft of Pennsylvania if provision was made to pay the expenses of representatives so that every Chapter might be represented.

Our Grand Chapter holds five regular communications every year, the principal one being that held on the Thursday following the first Wednesday in December. It is the meeting at which our annual election is held; the one at which all questions of finance are determined in which the Chapters have an interest, affecting their revenue, or involving contribution of their funds, and it is the only meeting at which amendments to the Constitution can be acted upon. It is the meeting which corresponds to the annual meeting of other Grand Chapters.

We have on our roll one hundred and twenty-four Chapters. At the meeting held December 8, 1898, one hundred and two were represented, an average of nearly eighty-three per cent., a percentage that we do not think would have been increased under any different circumstances and which we think will compare favorably with the percentage of attendance of any other Grand Chapter. On December 7, 1899, the representation was not so large, viz.: eighty-seven Chapters, a trifle over seventy per cent. There was no contest in the election and the only business out of the routine was an amendment to the Constitution changing the hour of meeting from three o'clock to two o'clock, which did not excite special interest. Had there been anything pending of importance the representation would doubtless have been much larger.

Let us see what the practice of paying mileage and per diem has done for Colorado.

In 1898 Grand High Priest Pierce stated in his address that for the five preceding years the Grand Chapter had been running behind financially at an average rate of two hundred dollars per annum, and that it was only a question of time until the

treasury would be exhausted. At the same meeting the special Committee on Finance reported the income of the past year to have been \$1,660 and the expenses \$1,858.91, showing a deficit of \$198.91. One item of expense was the pay-roll amounting to \$341.40. Eliminating this there would have been a surplus of \$142.49. At the meeting under review Grand High Priest Sanford reiterated the statement that bankruptcy was imminent and stated that it had been the custom of the Grand Secretary near the close of the annual convocation to arise in his station and donate a portion of his salary to the Grand Chapter to save it from financial embarrassment, but the records do not show that this unselfish action had the desired effect.

At the same meeting the Committee on Finance reported the receipts during the past year to have been \$1,700.50, and the expenses \$1,558.60, showing an apparent surplus of \$141.90, but the Grand Secretary held a warrant on the Grand Treasurer for \$200, which when paid would leave them in the old rut to the amount of \$58.10. In the list of expenses was the pay-roll amounting to \$437. If this had not appeared there would have been a surplus of \$378.90. But there was no surplus; there was a deficit which at the rate at which it was increasing would eventually wreck the Grand Chapter before many years. The situation had become desperate; the expenses must be reduced or the revenues increased. They chose to do the latter, and as the only source they could draw from was the Chapters, they increased their burden by raising the per capita tax from fifty cents to sixty cents. Without paying mileage and per diem this action would not have been necessary.

Perhaps we will be charged with being unfair in this, and it may be claimed that the deficit is due to extravagance in some other quarter, but we say, No! there is not another item on the list of expenditures that is not legitimate and necessary and

moderate in amount, and the shortage can be charged to no other source.

When a representative goes to the Grand Chapter he does not go so much in its interests as he goes to represent his own Chapter and in Pennsylvania we do not believe in paying the expenses of a man who is traveling upon his own business.

Companion Foster thinks we should pay mileage and per diem so that every one of our Chapters might be represented. From what he says one would think some of them were debarred. There is nothing to prevent any Chapter from being represented in our Grand Chapter provided no charges are pending against it, and when a Chapter is particularly interested in some pending legislation its representative is always there and if it has no occasion to send him it is not taxed to send the representative of some other Chapter. Companion Foster knows as well as we do that the system of mileage and per diem is often sadly abused and that the only way to stop the abuse is to abolish the system. Had the Grand Chapter left the per capita what it was and done away with the mileage and per diem it would have been richer at the end of each year while its Chapters would have been no poorer, and while the attendance might be less there would be enough there to transact all the business needed.

The per capita is a heavy tax on the two Chapters of Denver whose membership comprises more than one-fourth of the entire membership of the state and whose taxes are in that proportion. We doubt not they would consent to abolish mileage and per diem notwithstanding Companion Foster's statement, but the country Chapters would outvote them on such a proposition. The representatives of the latter enjoy an annual trip to Denver when the Denver people pay a large part of the bill, and as for the balance they are content to pay their

money into the coffers of the Grand Chapter and draw it out again.

The Chapters of Colorado are paying the expenses of their representatives to the Grand Chapter and at the same time are indulging in the delusion that the Grand Chapter is paying them.

Puck said, "What fools these mortals be." We have too high a regard for our companions of Colorado to apply so offensive an epithet to them, nor do we think they deserve it. The poet used the word and in making the quotation we were obliged to stick to the text. We will only remark, how pleasant it is sometimes to allow ourselves to deceive ourselves.

In Pennsylvania the per capita is thirty cents. The last report of our Committee on Finance can be found in the proceedings of our Quarterly Communication in December where they appear in this volume and notwithstanding there are some large items in the list of payments, for rent, expenses of Grand High Priest, salaries and the annual donation to the Masonic Home, we close the year with a handsome surplus besides an invested fund of \$20,000. How long would all this last if we paid mileage and per diem, and how long would it be before we would be obliged to sell our securities and do what Colorado has done, raise our per capita?

Companion Foster thinks mileage and per diem would be an improvement to Pennsylvania Masonry. We think it would not be.

CONNECTICUT

Later than usual and after we had given up the expectation of receiving it the volume containing the proceedings of this Grand Chapter comes to our table. A well executed portrait on steel of the Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Wesley U. Pearne faces the title page.

The One Hundred and Second Annual Convocation was held at Hartford, May 8, 1900.

The Grand High Priest, Companion Pearne made an address which is a very practical and business-like document. It shows that he discharged the duties of his station with industry, ability and fidelity. He opens with a tribute to the dead of his own and other jurisdictions, gives an account of dispensations issued and visitations made and gives wholesome advice upon matters which concern the interests of his Grand Chapter.

For purposes of visitation the state is divided into four districts each of which is assigned to one of the first four Grand Officers. In their visitations the Grand High Priest directed them to observe as follows:

1. The knowledge on the part of officers of the essentials of all the degrees, the manner and correctness of instructing candidates therein.
2. The records and financial condition of the Chapter.
3. The general condition of the Chapter as to paraphernalia, attendance, etc.
4. Knowledge of and compliance with the requirements of the Grand Chapter, particularly with regard to Miscellaneous Regulations, VII, XV and XXVII.

Each of the above officers submitted a report of visitations made, which were generally commendatory, and show the Craft in Connecticut to be prosperous. The financial condition of the Grand Chapter is good.

The Report on Correspondence is as usual by P. G. H. P., Companion John H. Barlow. He reviews fifty-two Grand Chapters, giving Pennsylvania a fraternal notice. The only criticism we have to make upon it is that he does not spell the name of this writer correctly.

The Committee recommended that recognition be extended to

the new Grand Chapter of New Mexico, which recommendation was adopted.

We are glad to be informed that the incorporation of Masonic bodies does not find favor in Connecticut.

To give the reader the best idea we can of Companion Barlow's report we quote from his "Conclusion."

"In the proceedings which we have had before us there is little to excite any lengthy comments or criticisms, and our report is necessarily made up, to a great extent, of extracts from the proceedings received. In fact our experience has brought us to the conclusion that such reports convey the greatest amount of useful information."

The volume closes with a statistical table showing the total number of Royal Arch Masons in the United States to be 212,922, an increase over the previous year of 5,018.

DELAWARE.

Grand Chapter met at Wilmington, January 17, 1900. M. E. Harry Galbraith, Grand High Priest, presided. There are but four Chapters in Delaware and all were represented. In the course of his address Companion Galbraith said:

"Capitular Masonry may afford but little opportunity for show and display yet in no branch of our Order are there more practical and instructive lessons taught. It has its mission and place in every-day life and nothing can prevent it increasing in popularity, year by year, except perhaps our own indifference."

The Committee on Finance made a satisfactory report: all bills paid and a balance in the treasury.

The Committees on Jurisprudence, Warrants and Dispensations, Work, and By-Laws reported that nothing had come before them.

The report on Correspondence is again submitted by Past

Grand High Priest Virginius V. Harrison. He reviews thirty Grand Chapters in fifty pages. The report bears evidence that he felt constrained and circumscribed as it abounds in such expressions as, "We have reached the dead line and hear the command, Halt!" "We would linger longer with this pleasant company, but have reached the limit of our space and must pause." "We would like to go further in the matter, but the time is up." No writer can do justice to himself under such circumstances, and we know if Companion Harrison would let himself loose he could and would write a better report than the one submitted. Our Grand Chapter is very liberal with our Committee, and never confines us to certain limits or tells us we write too much and take up too much room. Under such circumstances it is our own fault if our report is not thorough and exhaustive.

Companion Harrison is as firm as ever in his support of dependent membership, in his condemnation of public installations, and in his belief that the Past Master's degree does not belong to the Capitular system. In all these opinions we are in full agreement with him.

For some unaccountable reason Pennsylvania does not appear, not having been received. We cannot understand it, as Philadelphia and Wilmington are not so far apart that our proceedings should be lost in transit. We regret it and hope it may not occur again.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

A Special Convocation was held at Washington, March 29, 1899, when the Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master degrees were exemplified by competent instructors in the presence of a large attendance. The Grand Chapter was then called from labor until April 6, 1899, at 7 P. M., at which

date labor was resumed, the Royal Arch exemplified, and the Grand Chapter closed. We mention this because the calling from labor and the resumption of labor under such circumstances is new to us. We have heard of Grand Chapters calling off from one day to the next, but do not remember that we ever heard of one calling off to a date where eight days intervened. It may be all right but we cannot help wondering what the condition of the Grand Chapter would have been had the meeting of April 6th been prevented or abandoned. It may be said it would not be open because it had been called off. In reply we will say that it would not be closed because the ceremony of closing had not been performed. To prevent such complications we think it would have been better to close March 29th, and reopen April 6th.

Another Special Convocation was held in the same city May 23, 1899. The Committee appointed at the previous Annual Convocation to procure jewels for the Past Grand High Priests reported and produced the result of their labors. Eighteen Past Grands were present in anticipation no doubt of what was in store for them and received the jewels from the Grand High Priest who presented them with felicitous remarks which were suitably responded to by P. G. H. P. Noble D. Larner.

It is worthy of remark in passing that this meeting took place on the thirty-second anniversary of the constitution of the Grand Chapter.

The Thirty-second Annual Convocation was held at Washington, December 13, 1899. M. E. Companion Samuel R. Bond, Grand High Priest presided, as he did at the two special convocations we have noted. He delivered his annual address in which he made a report of his official acts. He received from the High Priest of Chapter No. 5, a request for a dispensation to receive and ballot on the petition of Brother Winfield Scott Schley and confer the degrees upon him at a special meet-

ing to be held the following evening, for the reason that, being a Rear Admiral in the United States Navy, and about to take command of the South Atlantic Squadron, he would be compelled to be absent at sea and in foreign lands for an indefinite period before his petition could be received and the degrees conferred in the usual time required.

He declined to grant the dispensation as requested, but considering it a suitable occasion on which to exercise his prerogative he attended the meeting and conferred the degrees on the Admiral at sight, in the presence of more than two hundred Companions, including many of the most eminent in the jurisdiction.

During the year he visited every Chapter in the jurisdiction, and repeated his visits to the most of them several times; and in nearly every instance witnessed, and took some part in, the conferring of one or more of the degrees. He believes that the meetings held for the exemplification of the work contributed largely to the excellent rendition of it which he witnessed in the different Chapters.

He states that the year had been a prosperous one for Capitular Masonry in the District. There are eleven Chapters whose membership was 2,320, a gain of 116, and the largest number ever on the rolls. Independent of investments and other assets the cash accounts of the Chapters show a balance of \$9,023.87, an increase over the previous year of \$2,187.56. Of the expenditures \$771.15 was for charity. The finances of the Grand Chapter are also in a healthy condition, the report of the Committee on Accounts showing an invested fund of \$2,850 and a cash balance of \$1,303.05, a total of \$4,153.05.

The Report on Correspondence is again written by Companion William R. Singleton and is not as full as those he has generally given us as may be understood when it is stated that he reviews forty-three Grand Chapters in forty-one pages. Penn-

sylvania for 1898 is disposed of in half a page. An abstract of our proceedings, necessarily brief, is given without comment.

We have sometimes locked horns with Companion Singleton but are glad to observe that he is sound on the substitute question on which he is in diametrical opposition to his Grand Chapter which in 1869 adopted this Standing Resolution :

"Resolved, That this Grand Chapter disapproves the use of substitutes in conferring any of the degrees of Capitular Masonry, and hereby prohibits its practice in this jurisdiction."

Under Nova Scotia in noting that the Grand High Priest had granted a dispensation for the use of two he says :

"In the good old times when we were young it was almost the universal custom and required no dispensation. Substitutes do no harm, and we know that in this jurisdiction there is much delay and inconvenience by our rigid law of three candidates. Let us give the Grand High Priest the power of dispensation when, in his judgment, the work of any Chapter will be benefited thereby."

To give the Grand High Priest the power to grant a dispensation in his discretion would certainly be a step forward in a good cause, but we in Pennsylvania think it superfluous. The interests of Royal Arch Masonry have not suffered, but have been advanced by leaving this privilege in the care of our Chapters for their free use and benefit.

ENGLAND.

We have received leaflets containing the proceedings of this Grand Chapter at Quarterly Convocations held February 7, May 2 and August 1, 1900. The only item we think would interest our readers is the action taken May 2d, on the application of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand for recognition.

The Committee of General Purposes reported through its

chairman that as the Grand Lodge of England has formally recognized the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, they would recommend that the recognition asked for by the Grand Chapter of New Zealand be accorded; the Grand Chapter of England agreeing not to grant any charters for new Royal Arch Chapters within the colony other than for Chapters to be attached to Lodges remaining under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England.

On motion the recommendation was adopted and the recognition asked for was accorded.

The only reason we can discover that the Grand Chapter of England recognized the Grand Chapter of New Zealand was because the Grand Lodge of England had recognized the Grand Lodge of New Zealand which we deem a very insufficient one, because the circumstances governing the two cases might be very different. The recognition granted was only a left-handed one, the Grand Chapter reserving the right to grant charters in New Zealand to certain applicants. The fact remains that so long as any Grand Chapter exercises the right to grant charters in New Zealand and the Grand Chapter of New Zealand concedes that right, the latter is not a supreme, sovereign, and independent body and is not entitled to recognition as such.

THE GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, AND THE COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH CROWN.

In our review of this Grand Lodge last year we noted the fact that a number of brethren in the Ashton-under-Lyne District were running an independent Mark Lodge and had refused all overtures to give their allegiance to the regular governing body.

In the volume under review the General Board, at the meet-

ing held December 5, 1899, reported with great pleasure that the "Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for the Ashton-under-Lyne District" had been formally dissolved, and the funds voted to Masonic charities. Thirty-six of the former members had applied for a Warrant of Confirmation, which had been duly granted under the style and title of "The Ashton District Lodge, T. I." and the Board had directed that the new Lodge should be placed on the roll of Lodges immediately after "The Old Kent Lodge," fifth on the list. The Board expressed its opinion that the sincere thanks of Grand Lodge are due to those brethren by whose desire for union, peace and harmony, this truly masonic result has been attained, and it is fully expected that the new Lodge will be one of the most numerous and most prosperous on the roll of the Grand Lodge.

The writer is able to make the same pleasant announcement that he did last year; that he has received the proceedings of every Grand Chapter assigned to him and placed them in their proper place in the foregoing review.

M. H. H.

FLORIDA.

The Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida, assembled in its Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation in Masonic Temple, in the city of Jacksonville, on Tuesday, May 8th, A. D., 1900, A. I. 2430.

The following items of correspondence, self-explanatory, are submitted as showing with what obliquity the mind of man can see things and how necessary it is to have a M. E. Grand High Priest with a level head such as Comp. James Cornell possesses. He rules that a Companion suspended from his Lodge and *ipso facto* suspended from his Chapter, can not,

when re-instated, resign as of the date of his suspension, which is not only common sense but good Masonic law.

"M. E. GRAND HIGH PRIEST—M. E. AND DEAR SIR: I am requested by the E. High Priest of this Chapter to present this question: Several years ago, at about the same time, two members of this Chapter were suspended by reason of their suspension in Blue Lodge for non-payment of dues. At the close of last year they were reinstated in Blue Lodge, of which we were soon after notified, and thereupon they asked for restoration and demit as of date of suspension. One paid up, but the other not being able, his dues were remitted, but both were demitted as of date of suspension (1893). This action was taken in the beginning of this year, but neither was on the rolls for this year and paid no dues after the year of suspension. Shall they be reported as reinstated, and if so, do we pay dues to Grand Chapter, and if so, how much?"

"E. COMPANION—Replying to your inquiry of 10th instant, beg to state that in my opinion your Chapter should pay Grand Chapter dues for these Companions for the year in which they were reinstated. Reg. 38 reads: 'A member suspended can be reinstated only by action of the Chapter;' and when so reinstated he is a member of the Chapter. Sec. 29 of our Constitution provides: ' * * * and pay into the treasury of the Grand Chapter the sum of one dollar for each exaltation and the sum of one dollar as annual dues for every member borne on the rolls at any time during the year,' etc., etc.

"Having carefully studied both Constitution and Regulations, I fail to find any authority for the action of your Chapter in dating these demits back to date of suspension in the cases cited, and would rule that your Chapter is indebted to the Grand Chapter in the sum of one dollar each for the Companions reinstated as set forth in your inquiry."

The following sentiments, clipped from the conclusion of the M. E. Grand High Priest's address, have the true ring:

"It has been my constant purpose whenever opportunity served to bring the minds of our royal craftsmen to a consideration of the true spirit of Masonry that lies behind all rituals and forms and ceremonies. That living Masonry that uses these as its instruments with which to reach the hearts of men. That we should make our royal art a part of our everyday life, not simply because we are of the royal craft, but because Royal Arch Masonry has made us better men. Let us go forward with a full realization of the responsibilities which rest upon us, ever walking

in the paths of rectitude and justice, bringing no dishonor upon ourselves or upon this Grand Institution which we here represent."

The M. E. Grand Secretary, in his report, says:

"On assuming the duties of this office, I found the library very badly mixed up, on account of the moving from the old office, etc.

"The books have all been classified and placed in proper order for ready reference. The file of our Grand Chapter was very incomplete, on account of losses by fire, etc. I am happy to say that I have succeeded in obtaining a complete file, with the single exception of the year 1870, for which I am searching the country over, and do not expect to give up the search until the file is completed."

If this paragraph shall happen to meet the eye of anyone having a copy of Florida's Proceedings for 1870, do the Secretary a kindness by sending it to him.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence in the matter touched upon by the Grand High Priest, and above referred to, in regard to Companions *ipso facto* suspended, approve his decision, as is here shown:

"The M. E. Grand High Priest reports the practice in some of the Particular Chapters of reinstating members suspended for non-payment of dues, and at a subsequent date issuing dimits to such members bearing date of such suspension, and presents some correspondence on the subject, with a ruling that the Chapter is indebted to the Grand Chapter for the dues of such member or members from such time as the reinstatement occurred, which ruling is approved.

"We would direct the attention of the Companion High Priests and Secretaries to the fact that if such practice should prevail, that it is a flagrant violation of our laws and is manifestly an injustice to the Grand Chapter, it being evident that it would result in an evasion of payment of dues to the Grand Chapter as well as imposing upon the Craft by testifying to the good standing of the Companion, when in fact he was under suspension. When dimits are granted, they must correctly show the date of the action of the Chapter granting same."

Florida appears to have nineteen Chapters and a membership of 693.

Comp. Louis C. Massey, Orlando, is Grand Representative to the Florida Grand Chapter; Elmer E. Haskell, Grand High Priest, Palatka, Florida; Wilber P. Webster, Grand Secretary, Jacksonville, Florida.

GEORGIA.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the State of Georgia, met in the Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation, in the Masonic Temple in the city of Macon, at 10 o'clock a. m., Wednesday, April 25th, A. D., 1900, A. I., 2430, and was opened in Ample Form, and with prayer by the Rev. J. J. Hyman, Grand Chaplain, pro tem.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Henry C. Burr, read his annual address, from which we clip the following:

"Companions, we may congratulate ourselves that Capitular Masonry is in a more healthful condition than for many years past, that a solid foundation for good work during the coming year has been laid, that many new Chapters will be organized and many, now dormant, will be revived."

And with our most hearty approval these words of admonition:

"As another Masonic year has passed, I desire to impress upon the High Priest of each Chapter, as I have heretofore attempted to do, that upon you must depend the success of your Chapters. Have you been vigilant and zealous in performing the work of your Chapter and in exercising the acts of your Companions? Have you guarded them against all approaching dangers? Have you cautioned them against excesses of every kind which tend to debase their dignity and degrade their profession? To what extent have you stored their minds with the sublime truths contained in the teachings of our Order? Have you warned and protected them against breaches of fidelity? Have you admonished them to walk uprightly before God and man? Have you advised them to improve their time for the good of the Craft? Do you now come to this Grand Convocation prepared to render a good account of your steward-

ship and able to discharge your duty as Craftsmen good and true? Let me urge you, my Companions, to teach the exalted truths of sublime Masonry as you find them taught in the great works of the lights of our Order. The author and finisher of the design and structure of the Masonry is the Great I AM. It is his conception of the plan by which man may be best advanced to holiness and wisdom, having for its great end the exalted reward which awaits the faithful Craftsman when life's race is run."

Companion Julius L. Brown read the following from Miss Bunnie Love, which was ordered printed with the proceedings, "Some Side Lights on the History of the Royal Arch Chapter in Georgia," from which we clip the following incident as showing the power of Masonic obligation even when antagonisms and passions were aroused by fraternal strife:

"Of course the war brought another obstacle to the growth of the Royal Arch work, as to all else. An interesting item may here be put on record for Masonry, however. When the invading foe reached the home of Dr. Daniel Hook, the first Grand Secretary of the State, he chanced to be there, but of course tried to make his escape. In passing out of his house he threw his Masonic apron across the threshold, and went his way. The enemy, so relentless everywhere, saw this white messenger, and at once ordered that Mrs. Hook and her children be placed in a secure position, and a guard stationed for her protection. Is it any wonder that strength and power and unity have grown into the Order?"

The following remarks from Comp. Robert L. Colding throw a strong light on the early history of Freemasonry in Georgia:

"The history of Masonry in Georgia may properly be said to be co-existent with the history of our State. There can be no reasonable doubt that in the one hundred and fourteen persons who landed at the bluff upon which Savannah now stands, there were many settlers who were members of our Noble Order.

"In the early days of the colony communication between Georgia and the mother country was slow and difficult, and consequently no Charter appears to have been granted to a Masonic Lodge in this State until 1735,

when Solomon's Lodge of Savannah, which Lodge still maintains her proud existence, was duly chartered.

"Among the first settlers who reached this country with Oglethorpe and his little band was Brother Benjamin Sheftall, who was Master of Solomons Lodge in 1758. His Journal or Diary is still in the possession of his descendants, who reside in Savannah. Were such not the case, the record of this illustrious Mason and his connection with the early Masonic history in Georgia would have been 'lost, forever lost,' as all the early Masonic records were destroyed by a disastrous conflagration which occurred in the early part of the present century.

"In 1894, while I was occupying the honorable position of Worshipful Master of Solomon's Lodge, Mrs. Perla Sheftall Solomons, a great granddaughter of Brother Sheftall, sent word to me by her grandson, who is now a member of the Masonic Lodge located at Ocala, Fla., that she had certain relics which might prove of interest to the fraternity. Little knowing the 'important discoveries' that were in store for me, I called to see this lady at once, and was shown the apron and jewel worn by Brother Sheftall while he was presiding as the Master of Solomon's Lodge, and she kindly presented these valuable relics to the Lodge, in whose custody we all hope they will forever remain.

"The Master's Jewel bears the date 1758, and the apron contains a combination of Blue Lodge and Chapter emblems, prominent among which is a circle which encloses the letter 'G,' and in the circle are the mysterious letters 'H. T. W. S. S. K. S.,' the meaning of which is so well known to every Royal Arch Mason.

"Masonic history informs us that originally the Royal Arch Degree was conferred in the Blue Lodge, and then only upon those who had actually presided as the Master of a symbolic Lodge. There can be no reasonable doubt of the fact that Brother Sheftall was a Royal Arch Mason, and as he was quite young when he came to this country and never returned to his mother country, and as he was Master twenty-three years after Solomon's Lodge was constituted, a natural, reasonable and logical conclusion is that he received the Royal Arch Degree in Solomon's Lodge, as this was the only Lodge in Georgia at that time.

"We are all taught that each and every Masonic symbol has its deep and significant meaning, and it is not reasonable to suppose that Brother Sheftall would have worn in a Blue Lodge an apron with emblems upon it that form no part and had no connection with the ceremonies of the Lodge over which he was called to preside. Hence, I think we can all rest assured that while the earliest Chapter in Georgia was not established until about fifty-five years after Solomon's Lodge was constituted,

still we can easily see that the Royal Arch Degree was conferred in Georgia from the time the Charter or warrant of Solomon's Lodge was granted by the Grand Lodge of England."

The report on foreign correspondence is from the pen of Comp. Alexandrian Merrill Lambdin, and he begins his labors with this fine tribute to the late Companion W. S. Ramsey:

"There is a sacredness in taking up the work of another, who has been recently called to his reward, especially one whose work has been faithfully, efficiently and joyfully performed for many years. Impressed with this emotion, and realizing how sorely will be missed the ever pertinent and pleasing comments of our beloved Companion, W. S. Ramsey, not only by the members of the Grand Chapter in our own State, but also in the many others whose work he was wont to review, we bring you hesitatingly a necessarily hurried report of forty-seven Grand Jurisdictions."

Welcome to the reportorial corps.

Under District of Columbia, we clip this bit of information:

"A special session for the purpose of the exemplification of the work in the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, was held in this Jurisdiction on March 29, 1899, and also on April 6, 1899. The Royal Arch Degree was also exemplified. The officers and members of the Grand Chapter were highly entertained by the Excellent Grand Visitor and Lecturer, Orville Drown, who, with able assistants, conferred these degrees, especially as one of the candidates was 'that distinguished patriot and valiant leader, Rear Admiral Winfield Scott Schley.'"

Pennsylvania is fraternally reviewed; notice of some of our decisions recited and a brief but comprehensive abstract given of our work and condition. Henry C. Burr, M. E. Grand High Priest; William A. Wolihin, R. E. Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

The Fifty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois, convened in the Masonic Temple, City of Chicago, on Thursday, the 25th day of October, A. D. 1900, A. I. 2430, at 10 o'clock a. m.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Nathaniel Bowditch, delivered the annual address.

From his decisions we clip the following, which are both good Masonic law and common sense into the bargain:

"The Grand Chapter of Illinois will never permit, nor can it tolerate, the opening of a Chapter or its appendant lodges without the *open* presence of the 'Holy Bible, Square and Compasses.'"

"A High Priest once installed can not resign. In the event of a refusal to perform his duties, the King at once becomes possessed of all the powers and prerogatives of the office and it is his duty to promptly assume the power and responsibilities of the position, and as acting High Priest his authority must be respected and obeyed accordingly."

"A Royal Arch Mason who by reason of physical infirmities is unable to conform literally to all or any of the requirements of the ritual may be excused from such performance by the High Priest. Such inability will in no way affect his standing in the Chapter or his right of visitation."

The M. E. Grand High Priest made an exceptionally large number of visitations which is both commendable and out of the ordinary.

Apropos of changes in ritual and the effect such changes have, the Grand Lecturer, Comp. Frank Hudson, says:

"I do not wish to be considered as arguing the matter *pro* or *con*, but as this is an important question to the Royal Craft, it should not be decided upon such trifling points as how it sounds to our ears, which have been trained to a certain rhythm. It does seem odd, after we have been accustomed to express an idea by a certain formula of words, to hear some one express the same thing in entirely different language. But it is important that this question should be settled finally at this coming session of the Grand Chapter. It is necessary for the welfare of the individual Chapters."

The M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Wiley M. Egan, reports the tidy balance of \$16,820.14.

In Illinois they give their Grand High Priest a salary, also one to their Committee on Correspondence. In Pennsylvania we work for love. Witness the following:

"Your committee recommends that the following appropriations be made and that orders be drawn on the Grand Treasurer in payment of same:

To M. E. Comp. N. Bowditch, salary as Grand High Priest.....	\$400 00
To M. E. Comp. N. Bowditch, expenses for past year.....	30 30
To M. E. Comp. John M. Pearson, Committee on Correspondence..	150 00

Companion John M. Pearson presents, as usual, the report on foreign correspondence. We have read this one as well as all preceding ones with the usual pleasure, and admit that it is "well worth the price."

Under Michigan we clip the following:

"There was no report on correspondence, and so to fill out the evening we read their new constitution. We could live contentedly under it, although we don't like the dependent membership clause, but why call convocations 'regular and special?' as if a regularly constituted Chapter could hold *ir*-regular convocations. We prefer the older terms 'stated and special.'"

Which gives us an opportunity to say that in Pennsylvania we have three classifications—"stated," "extra," and "special," each having application peculiar to the meeting held.

Pennsylvania is reviewed, and apropos of the decision of one of our recent M. E. Grand High Priests that "a straight line is the shortest distance between two points," says:

"No other rule will prove satisfactory for all time."

He has the following to say of our report on foreign correspondence:

"The report on correspondence covers more than 200 pages and is a

careful piece of work and should be carefully considered by all the Companions of the Keystone state. In his introduction M. E. Comp. Henderson gives the full detail of proceedings in a Masonic trial, and we find them so nearly like our own that the thought comes over us that they had a common source, and they did, to wit, a common sense of right. We agree with him, too, in considering, that in the case of delinquent for non-payment of dues, a less tedious course is sufficient. Comp. Stockton Bates inspected the Illinois work and we can draw a long breath again."

And as to the writer of the review of Illinois' proceedings, "I ain't a bad fellow, 'deed I ain't." So thank you for your compliment later on:

"The conclusion is beautiful and we quote in full what Comp. Bates says:"

Comp. George W. Warvelle, M. E. Grand High Priest;
Comp. Gilbert W. Barnard, R. E. Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Indiana assembled in its Fifty-fifth Annual Convocation in Masonic Temple in the city of Indianapolis at 2 o'clock p. m., on Wednesday, the 17th day of October, A. D. 1900, A. I. 2430, it being the first Wednesday succeeding the third Monday in October, 1900.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Thomas R. Marshall, submitted the annual address.

From it we learn that the jurisdiction of Indiana was called upon to suffer the loss by death of Companion Samuel B. Richardson and Past Grand High Priest, Companion Thomas B. Long. Companion Long's Masonic and civil record follows:

"Companion Long was born October 25, 1836, near Mansfield, O. He was made a Master Mason October 11, 1870, in Terre Haute Lodge No.

19; he was exalted to the degree of a Royal Arch Mason December 23, 1870, in Terre Haute Chapter No. 11. He received the degrees of Royal and Select Master May 30, 1871, in Terre Haute Council No. 8. He was created a Knight Templar January 28, 1871, in Terre Haute Commandery No. 16. He received the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Degrees November 4, 11, 18 and 19, 1885, at Indianapolis, and the Thirty-third and last degree at New York City upon September 17, 1889. He was Worshipful Master of Terre Haute Lodge No. 19 from 1880 to 1885; he was High Priest of Terre Haute Chapter No. 11 from 1873 to 1875; Illustrious Master of Terre Haute Council No. 8 from 1878 to 1879, and Eminent Commander of Terre Haute Commandery No. 16 from 1884 to 1885. He held the following offices in the several Grand Bodies of Indiana, to wit: Grand Master of Masons, from May, 1889, to 1890; Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, from October, 1879, to 1880; Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters, from October, 1894, to 1895. He was President of the Order of High Priesthood at the date of his death, and was and had been for many years the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. Aside from the inestimable service he has rendered the Craft in this capacity, his History of Royal Arch Masonry in Indiana, prepared and printed with the Proceedings of our Semi-Centennial Meeting, is a model of scholarly attainments and of great research; he therein discovered and brought to light from the ruins of the past treasures which make us richer and wiser and better in Royal lore. In public affairs Companion Long had the merited and unqualified confidence of his fellow citizens. He was Prosecuting Attorney of the Vigo Common Pleas Court in 1857 and 1858; School Examiner of Vigo County from 1868 to 1870, and Judge of the Vigo Criminal Circuit Court from 1870 to 1882. These are the dates of the civil and Masonic career of our dear dead, but no mere man may write his history nor take his photograph."

The M. E. Grand High Priest goes on to say:

"After the death of Companion Thomas B. Long, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, I ascertained that the report had not been prepared for this year. I discovered that Henry W. Mordhurst had nothing to do except to read Masonic literature, and I consequently appointed him Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence."

Here are some rulings which are novel:

"A simple objection to the advancement of a member, made by any member to the High Priest upon the evening set for the conferring of a

degree, is sufficient to prevent the conferring of a degree upon that evening, but only upon that evening, and the objection must be renewed from meeting to meeting in order to prevent the conferring of such degree at any meeting when no objection is made. After the Mark Master's degree has been conferred the candidate has certain rights and privileges and can only be prevented from finally receiving the other degrees by being regularly charged, tried and suspended or expelled for some un-Masonic conduct."

"A bare objection to the advancement of a candidate is sufficient to prevent his advancement upon that evening. If the reason for such objection is given, however, the Chapter may determine the question whether such reason is captious and insufficient."

"An objection made before the conferring of the Mark Master's degree upon a candidate operates as a negative ballot, and should so be recorded by the Secretary, and the fee paid for the degree should be at once returned to the candidate, because over such objection he has no right to any of the degrees."

"In response to an inquiry from Vincennes Chapter No. 7, I decided that although a petitioner duly elected had been stopped by an objection nine years ago, yet if the objector now withdrew the objection it was not necessary for a new petition nor to respread the ballot, but the degrees might be conferred."

Indiana prescribes the limit to which its report on foreign correspondence shall be confined.

Companion Long exceeded this limit, involving a personal pecuniary responsibility in the pitiful sum of \$27.55. Comp. Long did not live to pay the amount, and it was paid for him by Companion William H. Smythe.

"Companion Smythe referred this matter to me for determination. I responded to him in substance that no one had a higher regard than myself for the high Masonic attainments of Thomas B. Long, and that no one more thoroughly appreciated the vast labor he put upon his reports upon foreign correspondence and the amount of valuable matter for the Craft which was to be found therein, but that he was a poor presiding officer who insisted upon obedience to the law upon the part of subordinates and was unwilling to comply with the law himself; that I could not assume the responsibility of exceeding one hundred pages of printed matter at the expense of the Grand Chapter, but that if he would become primarily responsible for the excess I would recommend to the next Convocation

of the Grand Chapter that the excess thereof be reimbursed to him. This was duly communicated to Companion Long and he accepted of the terms thereof. Companion William H. Smythe paid this excess in the amount of \$27.55. And in view of the debt of gratitude which we owe to Companion Long, as well as in justice to Companion Smythe, who could not otherwise be reimbursed, I recommend that this excess be allowed to Companion Smythe."

To the credit of the Grand Chapter of Indiana be it known that the

"Committee on Claims, to whom was referred that part of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest's address relating to money advanced by Companion William H. Smythe to pay for printing extra pages of the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, recommend that the same be approved and allowed, in the sum of \$27.55."

And it was so allowed.

Past Grand High Priest, Companion Henry W. Mordhurst, appointed as above to prepare the report on foreign correspondence, opens his report with the following tribute to the late Comp. Thomas B. Long:

"This writer's predecessor was, as is well known, a most scholarly man, his writings were chaste, his words were well chosen, his arguments able, and his views always commanded respect and profound attention. In presenting this report his successor desires to say that he shall not attempt to follow Companion Long in his learned dissertations, primarily because he could not if he would, and then again it is so hard to induce anyone to read these reviews anyway, hence in lieu of the former style he shall endeavor to furnish a chatty report, one not so suitable to the profound reader, but one, as he believes, more desirable for the laity. He will try and give you 'a little bit off the top'—froth, foam."

Here is some of the "froth" which we clip under Colorado re "Masonic Homes:":

"We are *individually* bound to extend help to the needy, and the establishing of Masonic Homes does not and cannot relieve us of this personal

responsibility. Besides this, it is a grave question with many if it be really desirable to so invest large sums of money. This writer has found that, as a rule, deserving cases can be and are taken care of at home, and this without the applicant being made to feel that he is in a measure a public even though Masonic charge. There is no objection to homes for those jurisdictions that want them, but because a Grand Chapter uses its funds for other purposes is no reason for thinking that it is therefore not carrying out the principles of Freemasonry."

If this means anything, it means that the writer thinks it better to depend on the precarious assistance rendered individually as occasion presents rather than to establish Masonic Homes.

But what is to become of the beautiful lesson taught in the Third Degree? Have we not been taught that when Masons engage in any laudable undertaking they join hands in its accomplishment? Individual responsibility indeed is taught, for we must examine well into our means and resources, and relieve distress whenever in our power; but it does not follow that each is responsible in the sense that he must act solely in his individual capacity. The beauty of Freemasonry is its mysterious bond of fraternity, which impels to unity of impulse in doing good.

Adequate relief from the misfortunes that overtake many on life's pilgrimage is only possible through united effort. It was this very need that impelled Masons to establish Masonic Homes, and Pennsylvania's effort in this direction is a "Home" indeed, not an institution for dispensing frigid charity. Those who are sheltered in it are comforted also by the love of the brethren more fortunate than they have been. Ministering to the wants of these unfortunates is deemed a pleasure, not a duty to be perfunctorily performed.

Under District of Columbia, Companion Mordhurst says:

"Companion William R. Singleton submitted a report on correspondence and seems able to relate everything in thirty-nine pages, hence it would

be very strange if this writer could not tell all he knows in 100 pages, the limit set by the Grand Chapter of Indiana."

This is either an evidence of a becoming modesty or a statement of fact.

Under Mississippi we find the following and clip it because it is true as well as tersely expressed:

"Companion Savery is too pessimistic. * * * The real landmarks of Freemasonry will never perish. Let a Grand body attempt actual innovation and note how quickly the Craft take alarm. The Grand Lodge of Washington tried to upset a mere doctrine, yet it did not take long to convince them of their error. As Hedges, of Montana, says: 'Whenever a Moses falls there is a Joshua to lead on, and every David is succeeded by a Solomon.'"

Under Nebraska we of the reportorial guild are served with notice to "cut it short:"

"This, from Indiana, speaking of the attempt to remove the limit on our correspondence report: 'and the Grand Chapter generously removed the odious limit,' shows how carelessly many reviewers skim the various Proceedings. The Grand Chapter of Indiana did not 'graciously' or otherwise remove the 'odious limit,' and this writer hopes it never will do so. Forty-eight or fifty Grand Chapters can well be reviewed within the limit set (100 pages), if obituaries and tedious and uninteresting details are omitted."

We like this, under North Dakota:

"The Grand High Priest is worried because he granted permission to a Chapter to use a substitute to complete a team, and says had he realized at the time that it was the first dispensation of the kind to be recorded in their jurisdiction that it probably would not have been granted, as it might 'tend to annul principles which are deeply implanted in the hearts of all Royal Arch Masons.' Well, it's not as bad as that. The Companion should read more. Other States, in fact, most of them, use substitutes, and this without dispensations, and no deeply implanted principles are thereby annulled."

We clip the following under Ohio because of its information :

"The report of the Superintendent of the Ohio Masonic Home is printed with the Proceedings. They appear to have invested in the Home the sum of \$214,463.36, with an annual expense of \$19,759.69. Deficit during past year, \$2,469.84. With such a showing there were as inmates fifty-three men, twenty-three women, twenty-three boys and sixteen girls; total, 115. *The question for other jurisdictions who may wish to start like undertakings is, does the number of people that can be accommodated justify the outlay?*"

And to add that the sentence in italics (the italics are ours) is purely gratuitous.

And now we come to Pennsylvania: and this is the fraternal treatment we receive at the hands of Indiana's chairman and author of its report on foreign correspondence:

"Finally we come to a real foreigner, the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. Foreign in that it is not a member of the General Grand Chapter, foreign in that it is clannish, and foreign in that it does nearly everything differently from the other American Grand Chapters and is proud of its isolation.

"And yet the Pennsylvanians are not bad fellows, quite the contrary, but they are irritating in their Masonic ways."

How "Masonic ways" can be irritating to any Freemason is an anomaly. It is the *un-Masonic ways* that prove a thorn in the flesh.

We quote further:

"The report on correspondence is by a syndicate, as Stacker Williams would say. Indiana falls to the lot of Companion Stockton Bates. The introductory is by Companion Matthias H. Henderson, who continues to insist that public installations are violations of Masonic landmarks, and this after Drummond and Williams have conclusively proven that Pennsylvania formerly indulged in these or similar things."

And this "shows how carelessly many reviewers skim the

various Proceedings.” Had Companion Mordhurst even *skimmed* Pennsylvania’s Proceedings for 1899 he could not have helped seeing that the late P. H. P., Comp. J. Simpson Africa, by the presentation of irrefutable evidence, completely demonstrated that Comp. Drummond, of Maine, was in error and that Pennsylvania’s Grand Lodge and Chapter never took part in public installations or functions of any kind, as formally opened and tyled bodies, and that such participation is prohibited by our unwritten and written Masonic Law.

We again quote from our *irritated* reviewer :

“The committee are almost constantly telling us in their patronizing way how things are done in Pennsylvania, believing theirs the only real and ancient mode. Here is another of their exasperating remarks, speaking of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi, which employs a Lecturer jointly with the Grand Council of that State :

“‘We confess astonishment at a Grand Chapter joining hands with an organization not known in Ancient Freemasonry, in the appointment of a Lecturer who is to divide his time in laboring in the interests of both.’

“The Council degrees are probably as ‘ancient’ as, say, the M. E. M. degree. Pennsylvania really makes one irritable.”

Comp. Mordhurst is surely in error when he charges our committee on foreign correspondence with “telling him (other jurisdictions) in (our) *patronizing way*” anything. Our report is made to the Grand H. R. Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, and is published with the Proceedings for distribution among Pennsylvania’s Capitular Masons. The way other jurisdictions do things is set off as against the way Pennsylvania does things for the information, primarily, of the Companions of Pennsylvania, not in criticism of sister Grand Bodies.

If Comp. Mordhurst permits himself to become irritated when he reads what is written, not for his eyes, but to dispense Masonic light and knowledge, we can only regret his sensitive-

ness, disclaiming, as we surely do, any desire to be other than courteous, fraternal and truthful.

Renwick W. Crockett, Grand High Priest; William H. Smythe, Grand Secretary.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

The Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Indian Territory held its Eleventh Annual Convocation at Ardmore, Indian Territory, commencing Tuesday, April 17, 1900, A. I. 2430, at 10 o'clock a. m.

The annual address was delivered by M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion George William Spencer.

The report on foreign correspondence comes from the pen of Companion J. S. Murrow. It is ably written and beautifully printed.

Under Colorado we clip the following:

"We are glad to find the sentiment expressed and the pertinent questions left for consideration, regarding the best way of expending Masonic funds. Is there any real charity accomplished when the brethren take a pleasure journey, very often their only vacation, their expenses all met by the Grand Chapter, enjoy a pleasant reunion, often a banquet, and never a line on their Grand Chapter Records to show that anywhere distress has been relieved, widows aided or orphans comforted? 'And the greatest of these is--Charity.'"

And we are glad, too, that such sentiments are growing.

Pennsylvania is liberally reviewed. He quotes one of our decisions re physical perfection with which he does not agree.

Of our correspondence report he says:

"The Committee of five prepared their usual Report on Correspondence and again we are, very agreeably to us, assigned to Companion Stockton Bates. He gives us three of the two hundred and two pages covered by the report. He accuses us of having kissed the Blarney Stone because we styled the Reporters of Masonic Proceedings 'choice company.' We

don't 'fess up, not a bit of it; they ARE choice company and we are proud to be associated with them. As for the Irish, you are way off, brother, we are German, not exactly Pennsylvania Dutch, but Old Country stock. He makes this merited criticism of our printer's work. We'll TRY to have this remedied this year:

Thanks for this:

"This admirable Report reaches us only a week previous to the Annual Convocation of our Grand Chapter, so cannot give it the careful consideration it richly deserves, but we find ourselves so thoroughly in sympathy with Companion Bates' closing remarks that we append them in part, wishing it might be in full, as it is so full of soul food."

We had marked many things to clip and comment upon, but our time this year is short and the devil (the printer's devil, albeit) is calling for copy.

Therefore, quoting Comp. Murrow's conclusion entire, we respectfully pass on to another jurisdiction:

"The last guest has departed, and now, after a few moments of pleasant reflection, we will 'douse the glim' and retire.

"We have been gratified to notice that growth and prosperity are reported by the majority of our Companions, and that the general condition of the Craft is good.

"The leading spirits in the ranks of Capitular Masonry are, as a rule, men who have a personal faith in the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, and who, while they may be good HEAD Masons, are better HEART Masons. Thus, we have no fears regarding the future, but confidently believe that the new century will find the truths and principles of Masonry gradually out-ranking in importance its most ancient mysteries.

"To one and all of our Companions of the reportorial guild, and also to the great Brotherhood they represent, we beg to express our most sincere wishes for spiritual and temporal prosperity."

Companion Jonas A. Lee, Grand High Priest; Companion Joseph Samuel Murrow, Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Iowa convened in its Forty-seventh Annual Convocation in the hall of Corinthian Chapter, No. 14, Royal Arch Masons, at Des Moines, Iowa, the 18th day of October, A. D. 1900, at 10 o'clock a. m.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion N. B. Hyatt, presented the annual address.

It is an able document, beautifully printed in large, readable type. Speaking of the progress of the "Order," he says:

"Royal Arch Masons of Iowa have reason to congratulate themselves upon the progress of the Order during the last year. According to the reports of the Grand Secretary, there were exalted in the several Chapters of this State five hundred and thirty-eight. One hundred and two were admitted by card and thirty-three reinstated, and the addition of one new Chapter at Oelwein made the total increase during the year six hundred and ninety-four; and shows a net increase of three hundred and four, as against a net increase of one hundred and twenty-five during the preceding year. Thus while we have added but one to the number of Chapters, the membership of the Order has been greatly increased, and we are led to hope that Capitular Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction has just entered upon the road to expansion with prosperity unbounded."

The M. E. Grand Secretary supplements the above with the following:

"We are pleased to note that during the year 1899 the net increase in membership throughout the jurisdiction was three hundred and four; a much larger increase than has been experienced for several years, which tends to show that the Chapters are more active and zealous in their labors, and are prospering with the times."

And now we come to the report on foreign correspondence prepared by that veteran reviewer, Comp. T. R. Ercanbrack, who "drops so gracefully into poetry" that his report is worth reading for the beauty of his selections.

We acted on his advice, which was couched in the following words:

"The committee entreats all those who mayhap read any part of this report to do so in the morning, before the dispatches from China reach him."

And per consequence we had a peaceful time, undistracted by that "heathen Chinees" with

"Ways that are dark and tricks that are vain."

We have enjoyed the whole report, but of course have been most interested in what was said under Pennsylvania.

The reviewer goes for us thusly:

"Iowa's Representative, Joshua L. Lytle, was present at the third quarterly convocation, but failed to appear at the other two quarterlies, and was far hence from the one hundred and fourth annual. We profoundly regret that our Pennsylvania Companions have learned that they can successfully manage a Capitular convocation without the least help from Iowa. And since there is no mention made of Iowa in the correspondence report, there is real grounds for fear that in Pennsylvania Iowa may become *terra incognita*.

"Nevertheless, we will keep close watch on our dear Companions of the coal and iron state, for we feel that we cannot get along at all without them."

When our last report went to press the Iowa proceedings had not reached us. The omission was not, therefore, due to wilful neglect, but to the misfortune that befel us in not receiving the report.

And this is the unique way in which he refers to one of our Grand High Priest's decisions:

"At the second quarterly, the nearest distance of a petitioner to a Chapter was declared to be *the nearest distance*. No attempt was made to demonstrate that twice two are four, but an axiom of geometry, to wit: That a straight line is the shortest distance between two points, was affirmed in the following legal lingo:

“*Jurisdiction.*—Distance of a petitioner to the nearest Chapter must be measured on a straight line, without regard to roads or lines of communication.’

“Doubtless this important pronunciamiento will not only convince everybody of the need of quarterly convocations, but this particular one will have a great historical value to the latest generations!”

Now there is a point in this involving a legal definition. If in England you ask “How far is it to any place?” the Englishman replies by asking you “How far is it to walk?”

An Irishman was once asked how far it was to a certain town. He replied: “It’s two moil, but if yez walk pfahst yez moight do it in wan.”

A line through an impassable mountain dividing two towns is Masonically the “shortest” distance if the only way to get there is by a longer circuitous route.

“In the quintette report on correspondence Iowa is omitted. Our Proceedings were assigned to Stockton Bates, but Companion Stockton does not even lisp the word. In order that he may know the enormity of his offense, we quote an Iowa poet, S. H. M. Byers:

“See yonder fields of tasseled corn,
Iowa, in Iowa,
Where plenty fills her golden horn,
Iowa, in Iowa,
See how her wondrous prairies shine,
To yonder sunset’s purpling line,
O! happy land, O! land of mine,
Iowa, O! Iowa.
“And she has maids whose laughing eyes,
Iowa, O! Iowa.
To him who loves were paradise,
Iowa, O! Iowa.
O! happiest fate that e’er was known
Such eyes to shine for one alone,
To call such beauty all his own,
Iowa, O! Iowa.”

We have “risen to explain” on this point. See *supra*.

The following is Comp. Ercanbrack's conclusion:

"America is expanding; enlargement is the genius and destiny of our country. Partizanship cannot prevent it. Opposition to it may serve to make an issue for a single campaign, but any one elected to office as an anti-expansionist will be soon swallowed up in the roaring flood of inevitable progress. Royal Arch Masonry follows the flag. And amidst all the turmoil and contention that civilization will have with barbarism our Companions will be present to disseminate the beneficent influences that sweeten life in war as well as in peace. The manner in which the spirit of our Institution performs its mission among men is well expressed by Emerson:

"The solid, solid universe
Is pervious to Love;
With bandaged eyes he never errs
Around, below, above.
His blinding light
He flingeth white
On God's and Satan's brood,
And reconciles
By mystic wiles
The evil and the good."

Hear the eagle scream!

N. B. Hyatt, Grand High Priest; Alf. Wingate, Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Kansas convened in its Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation at the Masonic Temple, in the City of Topeka, Kansas, on Monday, February 19th, A. D. 1900, A. I. 2430, at 3 o'clock p. m.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Alexander A. Sharp, delivered the annual address.

From his decisions we clip the following:

"A majority of the companions having voted for the suspension of a member, that became the decree of the chapter. A motion to reconsider

could only be considered at the convocation at which the vote was taken, and before any of the companions had retired. If it is the desire of the companions to restore a suspended companion to membership, they can, by a majority vote, remit the dues for the non-payment of which he was suspended, receive his petition for restoration, and thereafter, by a two-thirds vote, restore him to membership."

The death of the former M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Jacob De Witt, is thus referred to in the report of the M. E. Grand Secretary:

"It was thus with the death of our M. E. Comp. JACOB DEWITT, your Grand Secretary since 1894. To his many friends over this State, the telegram, or Associated Press report of death, brought the first intimation of the approach of the Dread Messenger, while to his immediate friends and relatives—and even to himself—the fatal result was not expected. In such a case the picking up of the threads of the cord of life, tangled and scattered from the recoil of the tension that snapped them, and endeavoring to trace the direction and course of the earthly end, is a task of no little difficulty. It is therefore with much trepidation that I undertake the duty of making the report which your law requires from the Southeast corner.

"It is certainly not to be expected that any other than the most general report can be presented. Comp. DEWITT died on January 28th—only three short weeks before this Annual Convocation—and at the time when the annual returns from the Chapters were coming by every mail into the office. To verify the recent financial transactions as shown by the books with the returns received, and to keep track of the constantly arriving new business, seemed to be the only course open, especially in view of the fact that at the same time I was personally more than usually busy with other business affairs. This has been done, and in presenting the attached statement of the financial affairs of the office during the past year, it affords me great personal gratification to report that my departed friend and Companion had kept his financial and bookkeeping 'house in order,' and not even the naturally-to-be-expected snarls and mistakes have appeared.

"The usual routine work of the office seems to have been performed with the customary promptness and ability. The last Annual Proceedings were prepared, published and distributed through the proper channels. The Report on Foreign Correspondence, that able review from his pen which we have read from year to year with so much pleasure and profit, was the work upon which our Companion was last engaged, but it was hardly more than just begun when his labors on earth ceased. Of the

foreign Proceedings reviewed, nine only appear to have been reduced to writing. I would recommend that these be published, with a prefatory note, rather than to delay the issuance of the Proceedings of this Convocation by the preparation of a complete report by a new committee. The report of the new committee published with the Proceedings of next year can cover the ground thus omitted in this year's review.

"HISTORICAL REGISTRY.

"The condition of the Historical Registry which was being prepared by our late Grand Secretary under the card system, cannot be indicated, as there has not been time to examine it carefully. It was the hope and expectation of our Companion, as expressed by him in his report one year ago, that this work would be completed during the year just closed, but whether this anticipation was realized is not known. It is not doubted that valuable progress, if not completion, can be shown, but due and proper credit must be withheld until the facts can be presented."

The report on foreign correspondence is but a partial one for reasons before set forth, and as the following explanatory note informs us:

"Our esteemed and revered Companion, M. E. JACOB DEWITT, Past Grand High Priest, and at the time of his death the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter, and the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, had but partially completed the work of the preparation of the written report of that committee when death closed his labors.

"The several published Proceedings had undoubtedly been thoroughly digested and prepared for the writing of the report, as is apparent from the fact that the manuscript of the report which he left, and which represented his last work on earth, had been written in the regular alphabetical order of the several jurisdictions, and the report was complete as to the review of the following Proceedings:

Alabama	1898	Colorado	1899
Arizona	1898	Connecticut	1899
Arkansas	1898	Delaware	1899
California	1899	District of Columbia.....	1898
Canada	1899		

"The Grand Chapter, at its recent Annual Convocation, decided that it was for the best to print the report in its unfinished condition, rather than to require a new committee to amend and complete it. The brief

report which follows is therefore the unchanged work of our departed companion."

Joseph W. Smith, M. E. Grand High Priest; William M. Shaver, R. E. Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand Chapter of Kentucky Royal Arch Masons held its Annual Convocation in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Louisville, Tuesday, October 17, 1899, A. I. 2429, and was opened in ample form at 7.30 p. m.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion William R. Johnson, delivered the annual address.

He has this to say of their Masonic Home:

"At every meeting of a Grand Body of Kentucky Masons, we ought to hear something of the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home—so loved by us—so useful to this State, in that it has raised, educated and made good citizens of over a thousand beneficiaries since its establishment. Such a power for the good of mankind, because its example has been followed by so many Masons of other States, that its influence is almost incalculable; such a practical evidence of the need of Masonry, because it makes the love of our brother produce good works to help him. I do not mention it for the purpose of vain-glory, but to remind you that it is not complete. The Old Masons' Home is needed to round out the work. A year or two will, I believe, bring that to a successful conclusion."

The report on foreign correspondence is prepared by P. G. H. P. Comp. James W. Staton, and it is his twelfth. Long may he continue to edify the Companions and incidentally his fellow reviewers; may the obstacles be removed from his pathway and he be sustained and encouraged by the love of Royal Arch Companions everywhere.

"This is the twelfth time we have been called to this work. In the last two reports we experienced serious and sad difficulties in their preparation.

This year it has been fires, and other matters, giving us no little trouble. We hope the future will not be as dark and gloomy as has been the past two years. How much or how little we may be called upon to write will depend largely upon the number of proceedings received, and the interesting matter they may contain. We begin with the alphabet, as is our custom."

He says of Past Grand High Priest Johnson's address:

"The Grand High Priest delivered a plain, practical address covering seven pages of the record, in which he mentions the names of the distinguished dead of other jurisdictions recorded; Grand Representatives to and from other jurisdictions are named, among them Past Grand High Priest Edgar E. Tennis, from Kentucky, near that of Pennsylvania. He decided the place of residence of a petitioner is the nearest by line of travel and not by a straight line. We believe this is the correct doctrine. He constituted two new Chapters under charter. Both start off flourishingly. He did a fair amount of official visiting, which was doubtless attended with excellent results."

And of Past Grand High Priest Companion Jacobs' address he says:

"The new Grand High Priest delivered a very excellent address on assuming the duties of his office, which covers six and a half pages of the proceedings. The excellent suggestions made therein are applicable to more places than to the Royal Craft of Pennsylvania. He does not admire the hasty race often indulged in by Chapters that Companions may be hastily elevated to the 'fuss and feathers' department of Masonry. That suits this writer exactly, and we endorse the sentiment most heartily."

Of our report on foreign correspondence he says:

"That which has interested us most in this volume is the excellent report on Correspondence prepared by the joint Committee on Correspondence, of which Past Grand High Priest Matthias H. Henderson is Chairman. In the division of the work, the jurisdiction falling in the alphabetical list from Florida to Louisiana, both inclusive, fell to the lot of Companion Stockton Bates, and, of course, Kentucky fell in that list. The paper embraces one hundred and sixty-eight pages, Kentucky, 1897 and 1898, receiving seven full pages. Almost the entire review of 1897 is devoted to excerpts from the address of Grand High Priest Ranshaw. A very small portion of the review of 1897 is allotted to this writer's work.

We sincerely thank him for his sympathetic sentiments in our bereavement. In the review of 1898, only a small portion is devoted to the address of Grand High Priest Hopper, and nearly three pages to this writer's review. He takes exception to our remarks relative to Temple debts. We confess to have been too sweeping in our remarks, and should have excluded the Philadelphia Temple. Its only source of revenue is derived from the fraternity, and yet its debt (quite a large one) is reduced year by year without resorting to special taxation of the fraternity. But the debts of the Temples that have been liquidated have been by Special Taxation, at least such is the fact as relates to Boston, New York and Indianapolis, while others are still groaning under heavy debts.

"Divers excerpts from our review are quoted and we are led to believe they are endorsed, for we find no dissensions therefrom. The exordium prepared by Companion Henderson, and the conclusion by Companion Bates, are certainly most excellent papers, and if we had not already devoted so much space to Pennsylvania, we would certainly capture both and insert them in these pages. Other good things might be noticed in this review with profit, only for the reasons given. We must come to a close."

J. Speed Smith, Grand High Priest; H. B. Grant, Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana convened in Masonic Hall, New Orleans, La., on Tuesday, February 13, 1900, at 12 o'clock m.

M. E. Grand High Priest, George W. Bolton, delivered the annual address, which concerns itself with a detail of duties performed and the usual acknowledgment of the honor conferred upon the deliverer by election to the high office of M. E. Grand High Priest.

Companion Herman Cope Duncan prepared the report on foreign correspondence, which is so tersely written that we commend it as an example of succinctness. The Biblical instruction to "let your yea be yea and your nay, nay" has been learned and applied.

Under Colorado we clip, re Life Memberships, the following:

"The Committee on Correspondence differs with us on two matters, Life Membership and the Single Ballot, and we avail ourselves of this opportunity to add a word, inasmuch as M. E. Comp. Foster, their chairman, brings up both matters in a somewhat different light from that in which we have considered them. In what we have written in this report, and heretofore, we have only contemplated those who for a term of years have paid regular dues. He now proposes the case of a Companion who buys an exemption from dues by the single payment of a large sum, and he wants to know if the Chapter would be right in taxing such an one, say after the lapse of a year. We say no, unless the necessities of the Chapter required it. We are not opposed to Life Membership; we are ourselves a life member of two Masonic organizations and have been of four. But if Life Memberships are to be granted they should be provided for on sound business principles. If on the payment of a lump sum, then that sum should be of such amount that its interest would pay one's annual dues, and requirement should be made for its investment, the Chapter being prohibited from an infringement upon it. If Life Membership is to be granted on payment of dues for a certain time, then the dues should be of such an amount that at the expiration of such time a portion regularly set aside year by year shall amount to the endowment of a membership. If a man takes a Life Membership in a Chapter where there are no such provisions, he is like the man who invests in Life Insurance with a company of inadequate rates. After a while he may have, in the latter case, to face an increased assessment or the loss of his insurance through the bankruptcy of the company. In the former the hour may strike when he must again pay dues to his Chapter, or see his Life Membership go glimmering with charter surrender of the Chapter. If men invest in wild cat schemes they must take the consequences. If men invest in Life Membership in Chapters which make no provision to protect the scheme by endowment, the end must be disastrous, unless the supply of new members is maintained by hook or crook.

"To pay its policies the insurance company may have to increase its assessment. With the man that acknowledges the righteousness of the levy for the protection of his own and others' policies it will be well. But for the man who throws himself back on the letter of his contract, we fear his widow and children will suffer from a forfeiture of policy."

Anent the subject of the General Grand Chapter, we clip the following under Maine:

"M. E. Comp. Drummond, in his capacity of Chairman of Correspondence Committee, replies to some comments we have heretofore made concerning the General Grand Chapter. He now clearly reveals himself as a believer in centralized power, even such as was that of Solomon, and as one who holds that the 'status before the partial revolution of 1859 should be restored.' We are glad to have this avowal, so that the Craft may comprehend whither his teachings are trending. Some of us have been striving for the unification of all the Grand Chapters in the United States, and have wondered what subtle influence was working against us. We suspected that there was a suspicion abroad that the General Grand Chapter might not abide by its own Constitution. It is well to know that there was ground for the suspicion, in order that the friends of unity may see to it the hope of the revolutionists is blasted.

"In our last report we said that 'it must be admitted that original authority in Masonry was in the body of the Craft.' Comp. Drummond says this is not 'admitted,' and he adds, 'the Masonic government was patterned after the government of King Solomon.' We ask now when was the 'patterning' done, and who did it? Does Comp. Drummond mean in the days of King Solomon, or does he mean in the Eighteenth Century? If he means the former we have to say that all the evidence we have of Masonry in the days of King Solomon is as strong for its existence prior to that date. If he means the latter, then, we repeat, who formed the government? who did the molding? who 'patterned it after the government of King Solomon?' Did somebody say I am a King Solomon and everybody thereupon believed it? or did the Craft agree that one of themselves should, so far as the government of the Fraternity was concerned, have such rights and privileges as might be compared to those that King Solomon had?

"As we indicate above, we are uncertain of the exact meaning of Comp. Drummond, and we, therefore, pause for a reply. Regretting that our premise is not admitted, we stand ready to justify it so far as historic Masonry is concerned. In the realm of the unhistoric and mythical, one assertion is as good as another. We shall not quote the legend of the Smith against any assertion that King Solomon's sceptre was as potent as that of Ahasuerus.

"To our readers: Kindly refer to what will be found under Rhode Island in connection with the above.

"M. E. Comp. Drummond, in an address delivered before the General Grand Chapter, says of Capitular Masonry in Louisiana, that its Grand

Chapter 'ceased to meet in 1831, and all its constituents went out of existence except Holland Chapter.' This is thoroughly inaccurate, and shows the careless way in which the Companion deals with history, for year by year there is published in our Proceedings an 'Historical Table of Chapters' and the information therein contained could readily have been obtained by Comp. Drummond, if he had chosen to be an historian, and not a partizan of a theory. There is Concorde Chapter, organized in 1811, a very live Chapter to-day, to testify against him. Others of the constituency of that date, that he declares then went out of existence, lived for many years after. Perseverance, organized in 1811, did not go out of existence until 1873; Etoile-Polaire (Polar Star), lived from 1813 to 1880, and Clinton lived from 1829 to 1888.

"Holland Chapter, whose continuance of existence he graciously concedes, had its name changed to Orleans in 1851 and to Orleans-Delta in 1885, and still flourishes.

"The writer hereof was made a Royal Arch Mason in one of the Chapters whose existence is asserted to have ceased forty years previously. Such history (?) is curious."

And under Montana, apropos of the same subject, we quote the following:

"And yet E. Comp. Hedges, * * * * * is led away by the eloquence of M. E. Comp. Drummond, of Maine, and falls into the historical error of the latter anent the early history of Capitular Masonry. His judgment is warped also by the Templar organization. It seems to us that the into-relation of the State and United States bodies would be better understood if this fundamental truth were better observed, namely, the Capitular system is builded on Masonry, not on Templarism, and it must, therefore, be a follower of the Grand Lodge and not the Grand Commandery. Templarism is essentially military in origin, in history, largely in present development. In these latter days the military feature may, in the estimation of some, be a subordinate one, and yet the historic spirit will, we opine, continue to enforce, and rightly, its dominance.

"The question for the Capitular Mason to ask is on what lines are fundamental principles of American Masonry drawn, as exhibited in what we are pleased to call Craft Masonry? The Grand Lodge is the dominating factor in it, and rightly. Now, everybody knows that the State Grand Lodge is the sovereign, with no other Masonic power above it. Whether that be wise or not, whether we ought to have but one National Grand Lodge, and our State organizations to be merely provincial bodies, is not the question. It is not to-day an open question.

We do not deny that it may become so. We do not deny that the several sovereignties of this Union may one day be merged into one, and we do not care to say just now on which side of such a proposition we shall probably be found. Let it suffice to state that at no period, since the first hour of the existence of a sovereign Masonic power in this land, has there been an organization of Craft Masonry other than that now prevails; limiting 'Craft' Masonry to that practiced in Blue Lodges. We say, then, that 'Capitular' Masonry should follow Logical Masonry, if we may coin the term. And we wish to say further, in this connection, that the distinction between 'Craft' Masonry and 'Capitular' Masonry is largely artificial. Is there not as much of 'Craft' in Chapter Masonry as there is in the Lodge? Who will not say that there is rather more of the representation of work in the Mark Degree and the Royal Arch, and even in the Most Excellent, than there is in Entered Apprentice, or Fellow Craft, or Master Mason? The Third Degree is a magnificent drama, and wise and valuable instruction concerning the foundation of a Mason's life, and the necessary principles to be observed in its evolution are given in the First and Second Degrees; but there is no exemplification of work as in, for example, the first section of the Fourth Degree, or the third section of the Seventh. We believe that the integrity of the Masonic institution lies largely in a careful preservation of the unity of the Lodge, the Chapter and the Council. Together they constitute Ancient York Masonry. It will destroy the proper equilibrium if one of these violates the unity and adopts a governmental system at variance with that of the others; and we say further, that propriety demands that Chapter and Council should follow Lodge. If there is to be a fundamental change, let the Grand Lodges make it first, and if they do, then, we say, the Grand Chapters ought to do so likewise, but not otherwise.

"Should we accept the so-called history of M. E. Comp. Drummond, *and we do not find the records as he quotes them*, yet we would call attention to this, which cannot be denied: He says that a Sovereign General Grand Chapter was organized in the beginning. We say that if the ancient Brethren did anything in the Capitular department not in accordance with the then prevailing spirit of American Masonry, the organization of sovereign bodies on State lines, they very quickly rectified their lines and conformed them to those on which the dominant power in Craft Masonry, the Grand Lodges, were organized. The Grand Chapters, for example, of Rhode Island and New York, were organized precisely as were the Grand Lodges of Rhode Island and New York, by conventions of what then came to be subordinate bodies, and not by any General Grand Chapter of the North, or of any similar description. What if such a body was organized by a convention of

representatives of Chapters? That does not amount to a row of pins. What if such a body endeavored to deprive State Grand Bodies of the elements of sovereignty, which it did not, for they, *and they alone, for many years*, exercised that chief element of autonomous government, the propagation of its species in chartering Chapters? What of it, we say, for very quickly the State Grand Chapter, in consonance with the spirit of American Masonry, was organized and universally recognized as sovereign. Any possible claim of a right to exclude sovereign powers from Grand Chapters on the part of a General Body was withdrawn, if ever made, as soon as made, for the Masons of that day would not tolerate it. They said, and they said rightly, Capitular Masonry is essentially one with Craft Masonry, and its organization must and shall be on the same lines.

"We are tempted to add a word about Templarism. It ought to be remembered that its organization is essentially on military lines. There can be but one Grand Master, but one General-in-Chief, and there must be a General-in-Chief. We readily admit that the logical conclusion would be a General-in-Chief for the world. But the world is divided into civil nations, and it is intolerable for a political power to have the military allegiance of its citizens due in any part to any power not of itself. It would be a wrong to the government of the United States to organize a military force in this land under command of an officer who was a citizen, we will say, of Jerusalem, or of Rhodes. Political necessity requires that the great body of Templars should be divided according to nationality. On the other hand, there is no reason to hinder the national organization of Templars, and we rejoice to know that they are so organized. We believe it a wise and a good thing for themselves and for the nation itself."

And now in response to our comments re Life Membership we have under Pennsylvania an able argument based on the "*reductio ad absurdum*." It is too good to be lost, so we quote:

"The Correspondence Committee cannot agree with us in the assertion of the right to tax a 'Life Member' if found necessary. We once thought as the Companion, and mature deliberation has caused us to change our opinion. Suppose a Chapter declare that if a Companion pay dues for, say ten years, he shall be exempt from further payments. Is there not behind this the tacit clause in the agreement that the Chapter shall be able to continue to so remit dues? To revert to the supposition, and we may say that we are taking a leaf out of our experience and not building a figure of straw—the Chapter does no work for

ten years. Now, where is it? All members are exempt from dues, and there is absolutely no income. There are of necessity expenses. What is to be done? One of two things—surrender the charter, and then where are the privileges of the ‘Life Members;’ or tax the membership sufficiently to re-create a revenue commensurate with the necessity. We say the good of the ‘Life Members’ themselves demands the tax, and the law of self-preservation justifies it. It is all very well to talk of contract, but let it be always understood that all contracts must be subject to the continuing ability of the parties to meet the contract. In the world if I contract to pay a man a certain sum in the future and fail to do it because of inability, he may obtain judgment against me and keep me down indefinitely. But we will not argue here the merits of a bankrupt law; we shall only say that no true Royal Arch Mason will deny the right of his Chapter, when its necessity requires it, to tax him, and if he is able, he will cheerfully pay his tribute.”

The above read in connection with its author’s further remarks under Colorado (above quoted) clearly elucidate his views which are incontrovertible. But, “allege samee,” “she do move;” and Life membership is a good thing, the fee for it being adequate, both for the member and the Chapter. The exhaustion and failure of a Chapter by reason of its sheer inability to perform its part of such a contract, however, give it no *right* to assess dues upon a Life Member, however expedient it might be for such a Life Member to gracefully yield to such a demand.

Comp. J. F. Pierson, Grand High Priest; Comp. Richard Lambert, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland was held in the Masonic Temple, Baltimore, Tuesday, November 14th, A. I. 2429, A. D. 1899, at 7 o’clock p. m.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion William H. Martin, delivered the annual address.

He says:

"In recalling the events of the past year it is a great pleasure to be able to record the fact that nothing has occurred to disturb the peace, harmony and fraternal union which cement us as members of the Royal Craft."

In re "dual" membership he has this to say:

"I have had the fact brought to my notice that one of the Chapters included in their remittance for annual dues to this Grand Chapter, a sum covering the Honorary Membership—so called—of two Companions, members of another Chapter. As this Grand Chapter does not acknowledge dual membership, the names were erased from their annual return of members, and the fee returned. The term 'Honorary' which appears in 'Special notice to Secretary' in return, applies to members of the Chapter only and is likely the cause of the error.

"The question of extending such compliments, however, still remaining, I beg to suggest that the Grand Chapter pass upon the admissibility of such action by Subordinate Chapters, wherein no rank or standing as an active member is intended to be conveyed."

Companion Edward T. Schultz prepared the report on foreign correspondence. That he was willing to lay aside the working tools after such long and arduous service the following will attest:

"The Chairman of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, having yielded to the solicitations of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest to continue in the service in which he has been so long engaged, he has, with the aid of a reader and amanuensis, prepared a review of the later Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters that he has received from the Grand Secretary.

"The last regular review he had the honor to submit was at the 1896 Annual Convocation. To have examined and reviewed all the proceedings received since that time would have required more labor than he possibly could have given to the subject; he has, therefore, in this report, confined his notice almost exclusively to the last Proceedings received. In a few cases, however, he has reviewed the Proceedings for two years.

"In these Proceedings most kind and complimentary mention is made of the two celebrations—that of the Centennial of our own Grand Chapter and the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter—held in this city during the year 1897. Copious extracts are given from these notices, despite the fact that in so doing your Chairman has laid himself open to the charge of egotism by the recital of many of the complimentary remarks personal to himself for the part taken by him in the Centennial observances.

"It seems but right and proper that the Companions of Maryland who labored so zealously to make those celebrations a success should know the estimation in which their efforts are held by the distinguished Companions of the various parts of the United States who were present on one or both of these occasions.

"Naturally with the disadvantages under which your Chairman has labored, many imperfections will be found in this report; all that he can do is to ask the kind indulgence of its readers for its shortcomings."

Under Arkansas we clip the following:

"Our experience is that the yearly change and rotation of officers in our Masonic bodies is of a most hurtful character. It is a laudable ambition on the part of any Brother to become Master or High Priest, but it should be clearly understood that to be qualified to fill acceptably these positions requires more than a mere capacity to recite the rituals."

With which sentiment we heartily concur.

For its "wee bit" of history we clip the following under Iowa:

"As is well known, in Iowa the Cryptic Degrees are worked under sanction of Chapter warrants (as they were in Maryland up to 1872), and the question of separation has been agitated from time to time in this jurisdiction; at the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter the Grand High Priest was authorized to issue a circular letter to the Chapters desiring to have their opinions on the subject of a separation of the Council Degrees from the Chapter."

Pennsylvania is fraternally reviewed. He quotes from Past Grand High Priest, Companion Michael W. Jacob's address, and "particularly commends" a portion thereof.

Reference is made to the late Companion Africa's review of Maryland from which liberal extracts were made.

Comp. Daniel T. Ordeman, M. E. G. H. Priest; Comp. George L. McCahan, R. E. G. Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

A Stated Quarterly Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts was held in Masonic Apartments, No. 18 Boylston Street, Boston, Mass., on Tuesday, March 7th, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429.

The volume of proceedings for 1899 comes to us adorned with a fine engraving of Massachusetts' first Grand High Priest, Companion Benjamin Hurd, Jr., who held the office 1798-1800.

A table of contents makes possible ready reference to any part of the proceedings.

Massachusetts, as Pennsylvania, holds Quarterly Communications.

In the matter of "duplicate charters" the committee made the following report:

"The Committee to whom was referred the question of the certification, by the Grand Secretary, of the copy of the Charter of a Chapter, which it may be permitted to use in lieu of its original for all purposes of Chapter work except on the visitation of an officer of the Grand Chapter, begs leave to report:

"The preservation of the Charter of a Chapter is of paramount importance and any safeguard which shall ensure its safety cannot be too strongly emphasized. It is a custom of some Chapters to keep the original Charter in a place secure from fire or other casualties and to use a copy of the original for Chapter purposes. This custom your Committee strongly commends.

"It is deemed essential, however, that the copy of the original should be duly certified by the Grand Secretary and that a record of all such copies should be kept by him. In order that such records may be

complete, it seems advisable that a register should be kept of Charters lost by fire or otherwise, together with such notes, relative to the loss, as the Grand Secretary may see fit to make.

"Therefore your Committee recommend:

"That any Subordinate Chapter may provide itself with a copy of its Charter, and, when the same shall have been duly certified by the Grand Secretary, such Chapter may and hereby is authorized to use this certified copy of its Charter for all Chapter purposes except on the occasion of the visitation of an officer of the Grand Chapter, or the Installation of the officers of the Chapter, when the presence of the original Charter shall be required.

"That any Chapter using an uncertified copy of its original Charter, which original Charter being still in their possession, shall have the same duly certified by the Grand Secretary.

"That any Chapter using a copy of its original Charter which has been certified by any previous Grand Secretary or officer of the Grand Chapter shall notify the Grand Secretary that it is using such a copy and give the details of certification.

"That the Grand Secretary shall make a record of all Charters issued by the Grand Chapter which have been destroyed by fire or otherwise, together with a brief account of their loss."

We clip from the able Memorials presented the Masonic history of Past Grand High Priest, Companion Seranus Bowen, because he was so well and favorably known to many of the Masonic Fraternity of Pennsylvania:

"His career in Freemasonry was most notable in the Capitular and Cryptic Rites. As Grand Lecturer of this Grand Chapter he was a bright and shining light for many years, and his ardent zeal and critical accuracy can never be forgotten by those of us who have so often witnessed the Annual Exemplifications of the Work and Lectures under his painstaking guidance. As a Ritualist he was very correct, and the delivery of his lines was characterized by plain effectiveness without attempt at florid oratory. As Grand Secretary, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, he devoted his best energies to the performance of his duties, and was a worthy successor to the saintly Dadmun and the lamented Chapman. His long service in the office of Thrice Potent Grand Master of Boston Lodge of Perfection doubtless marked him for elevation to the Thirty-third Degree of the Scottish Rite, which was an honor well deserved by him."

“ CELEBRATION OF CENTENNIAL.

“A Special Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was held in Masonic Temple, Boston, on Tuesday, October 24th, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429, at two o'clock, p. m., to celebrate with fitting ceremonials the Centennial of the formation of this Grand Chapter, on the 13th of March, 1798, in this city.”

The ceremonials were fitting and impressive, and the record thereof ample and very interesting. To attempt to give extracts would be but to mar what is a symmetrical whole.

We can not refrain, however, from giving the following bit of history from the address of Companion Warren B. Ellis :

“The last quarter of the last century was rich in incidents affecting the welfare of our country in almost every direction ; among those which had a bearing on the moral and social development of our own State were two small gatherings in the old Green Dragon Tavern, in Boston, one of which occurred October 24, 1797, and was the beginning of the General Grand Chapter of the United States ; the other, March 13, 1798, at which the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts was established. This last event we have assembled to commemorate.

“The beginning of this body was exceedingly modest ; its founders were few in number, without the advantage of experience and with little conception of the possibilities of their undertaking. But, however feeble their beginning, their action was inspired by a noble purpose, for they sought to enlarge the usefulness of Freemasonry and to extend the practice of those principles which uplift and improve society. Experience has confirmed the wisdom of our founders, for the feeble body of one hundred years ago has grown into a great organization of more than fifteen thousand Royal Arch Masons which exerts an influence that is respected wherever the Capitular Rite is known or practised. We have therefore good cause to rejoice as we trace the growth of our Grand Chapter and mark the success that has crowned its career. We cannot reflect upon the Lodge of St. Andrew as the source of its membership ; it also for a time made use of the Charter of that body, but was in every other sense a separate and independent body.

“In the dilemma created by the loss of its officers the Brethren of the Royal Arch Lodge turned for advice to Joseph Warren, who was then Grand Master of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge and highest in ‘Ancient Masonry.’ By his advice their meetings were continued while he sought

instruction from Scotland whether or not to grant them a Charter. As no Charter was received we may conclude that he was not successful in obtaining authority to do this work, or what is more probable, his time was so much occupied with public affairs that this business was neglected, for in July, 1771, 'a committee was chosen to write home to England to Brother DeMott,' and 'Brother Warren warned of the vote.' The Brother DeMott of this record was undoubtedly the famous Lawrence Dermott, who was then the leading spirit of the schismatic Grand Lodge of England and the most active promoter of the Royal Arch Degree. If any answer was received from Dermott it has not been preserved.

"No meeting of the Royal Arch Lodge was held during the period of the Revolutionary War nor for several years afterwards. When its meetings were resumed the Brethren were indebted to the Lodge of St. Andrew for their 'politeness' in granting the use of their Charter, and its presence was supposed to make their meetings lawful. But a borrowed Charter was not satisfactory; the Brethren were determined to find some authority which should establish their rights beyond question, and we notice in the record of April 5, 1797, that it was 'their opinion that the only proper application for a warrant should be to the Grand Holy Royal Arch of England,' and a committee was appointed 'to draught and forward a petition accordingly.' Before the committee had an opportunity to complete their work steps were taken that led to the establishment of a Grand Chapter. The only record that we now have of the beginning of this work is found in the records of St. Andrew's Chapter. The relations then existing between this Chapter and King Cyrus Chapter, of Newburyport, the only Royal Arch Bodies, in this State, were very cordial, and each had the same interest in forming a Grand Chapter. Associated with the Companions of these bodies were Thomas Smith Webb and John Hanmer, of Temple Chapter, of Albany, N. Y., who also took a deep interest in this movement. The subject of a Grand Chapter was discussed in each of the Chapters represented by these Companions and each appointed a committee to act in its behalf. The result was the meeting before mentioned at the Green Dragon Tavern, October 24, 1797.

"This meeting, or convention, as it is termed in the records, was the beginning of the General Grand Chapter of the United States; its organization was completed in the City of Hartford, Conn., in January of the following year. The Grand Chapter of Massachusetts was organized in accordance with the provisions of the General Grand Constitution, March 13, 1798. The event occurred in the old Green Dragon Tavern, and its promoters were among the principal leaders of the enterprise of the previous October.

"Before entering on the history of our body it may be interesting to

briefly consider the condition of the Capitular Rite as it was in 1798. Freemasonry was not a new thing in Massachusetts at that time; sixty-five years have passed since the first Lodge had been opened. During that period two Grand Lodges had been established and seventy-six Subordinate Lodges chartered, many of which, however, were located outside of the State. The first Royal Arch Lodge was organized in 1769 by members of the Lodge of St. Andrew, assisted by several British soldiers who were then stationed in Boston. Royal Arch Masonry did not grow rapidly at first, for, as has been mentioned, only two Chapters had been established when this Grand Chapter was instituted. Although this branch of Masonry grew slowly, its establishment is an evidence of a growing interest in Freemasonry, which appears to have been started by the union of the St. John's and the Massachusetts Grand Lodges, March 5, 1792. This was one of the most important events in the history of Freemasonry in our State, for by this act the jealousy and rivalry of two Grand Lodges occupying the same territory was eliminated and their interests united and harmonized in one body. The increased interest in Craft Masonry resulting from this union would naturally extend to the higher Degrees and lead to the adoption of some plan by which their usefulness could be extended and perpetuated. No plan could accomplish this result as well as the organization of a Grand Body; in no other way could uniformity of work be assured or the dignity of the institution maintained. Both of the Chapters whose early members recognized this fact are existing to-day, and both are interesting to all who rejoice in the prosperity of our Rite as links connecting the period of its organization with the end of a century of successful achievement.

"The history of St. Andrew's Chapter is well known; its records from its beginning as the Royal Arch Lodge of Boston until the present time have been preserved and afford valuable information regarding the Capitular Rite in our country. Its history is both unique and interesting, for it was the first *regular* Royal Arch Lodge established in this country. We say this without forgetting the body now known as Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, of Philadelphia. The latter body was not from its beginning a Royal Arch Lodge in the sense in which the term is now understood, for according to its own records it was accustomed to initiate apprentices and raise Master Masons, while the knowledge of the Royal Arch was in the possession of only a portion of its members, by whom, with the approval of the rest of the Brethren, it was conferred upon suitable candidates. The Royal Arch Lodge of Boston was from its start entirely free from Lodge control and Lodge Ritual, and as such antedates all other Royal Arch Bodies in this country."

The following Centennial Ode, written by Companion Fred Clinton Fairbanks, was sung by the choir :

“ODE.

“All hail! Companions Excellent!
With jubilant accord
Your voices join in songs of praise,
To magnify the Lord,
Who through an hundred years hath kept
And blest our chosen band,
Our strong foundations deeply laid,
For evermore to stand.
“When we the burning bush behold
In awe, with unshod feet,
Fill thou our souls with ardent love,
And zeal for service meet.
O Great High Priest within the veil,
Accept our offering,
Which we, with humble gratitude,
Unto Thine altar bring.
“Jehovah, Who to Israel
Revealed Thy mighty hand,
Conduct us through life’s wilderness
Into the Promised Land.
Send down the fire from heaven, O God,
Upon each waiting heart;
Establish here Thy dwelling-place,
And nevermore depart.”

We would like to quote the “Centennial Poem” from the pen of Rev. R. Perry Bush, but space forbids.

A banquet with toasts and responses furnished a feast both physical and intellectual.

The One Hundred and First Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts was held in Ionic Hall, Masonic Temple, Boylston Street, Boston, Mass., on Tuesday, December 12th, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Warren B. Ellis, delivered the annual address.

Of their Centennial he says :

"The most memorable event of the year was the celebration of the Centennial of the Grand Chapter on the 24th of October. The actual date of our one hundredth birthday was March 13, 1898, and considerable preparation for the celebration at that time had been made when the illness of the Grand High Priest put a stop to all work for a time. On the election of his successor the subject was revived and plans adopted to make the enterprise a success. It was concluded best to wait for the completion of the new Temple, as the Committee were of the opinion that the Companions would prefer to have the exercises of an event of so much importance as the Centennial observed in a building devoted to Masonic use rather than in a public hall which had no association with our Rite. Next to the day of our birth none could be more appropriate than that chosen, for on October 24, 1798, the first meeting was held for the organization of the governing body of Royal Arch Masons in our country.

"The plan of the celebration was adopted after long and careful consideration and the success that attended its consummation was highly gratifying to the Committee in charge. We were honored with the presence of many distinguished Masons, among whom were the General Grand King and two Past General Grand High Priests of the General Grand Chapter, Grand High Priests and other officers from several sister Grand Chapters, the Grand Master of Masons of Massachusetts, the Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, representatives of the Grand Commandery and Scottish Rite bodies and a large number of the Companions of our own body.

"It is a pleasure to us to know that our celebration was a subject of interest to Royal Arch Masons in every section of our country. Many Companions who were unable to be with us sent their regrets and assurances of interest in the event. The celebration will always be remembered by all who participated as one of the important events of Royal Arch Masonry in our State."

Of the condition of Capitular Masonry he has this to say:

"Companions, the work of the year is finished. We are grateful for the success that has attended us. Our Chapters are prosperous, their interests are guarded and promoted by faithful Companions. At no time has the Capitular Rite been more respected or its mission better understood than now."

The report on foreign correspondence is from the pen of Companion J. Gilman Waite.

Opening his review he says:

"In presenting you our second review of the Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters in correspondence with our own, we call attention to a variation from the former one. For convenience of reference, as well as for comparison, we have tabulated several items of information which have heretofore been incorporated in the review of each Grand Chapter. To these tables your attention is invited.

"As it has ever been our policy to work along the lines as they were laid down by the fathers, so it will be our earnest endeavor to bring to your attention those things which make for the strengthening of those lines, avoiding controversy, yet never lacking in the courage of our convictions when questions of policy are to be discussed.

"The result of our labors is submitted, in the hope that they may be found worthy of perusal."

And the result is worthy of perusal.

Under Connecticut, re the subject of unpaid dues, we clip the following, which has our hearty approval:

"A Mason's dues, like any other obligation, should be met at maturity. Failing to do so, he knows that there is a tribunal to which he can go with the certainty of having a patient hearing and it is his duty to submit his case there before his negligence gives the Body the opportunity to visit upon him its final judgment."

Pennsylvania for 1898 passes under review. Of the then Grand High Priest's address he says:

"The Grand High Priest delivered an able and forceful address, in part reviewing the progress made by the Grand Body, but more particularly setting forth the measures which should be pursued for the advancement and elevation of it and its work upon the adherence to the lines as laid down by the fathers."

And with the following we are in hearty accord:

"Shall we not all of us welcome the day when more attention is given to the upbuilding of Masonry than to the making of Masons to swell the membership lists of Bodies?"

An examination of the statistical table prepared with great labor shows an anomaly. New York's membership is placed at 1,930 and North Carolina's at 20,560. Evidently the "galley" slipped.

Under Wisconsin and on the subject of the "farce" in Freemasonry we heartily endorse the following:

"Happily, we have known of no such scene being enacted in this Jurisdiction in recent years, but, should one unfortunately arise, it is to be hoped the High Priest would be alert enough to treat it in the most drastic and summary manner. The Lodge-room is no place for the enactment of a farce."

Now here is a brand new idea on the subject of Life Membership. We clip under West Virginia:

"On the subject of Life Membership he expresses the following opinion:

"'We are of opinion that a portion of the above will be found impracticable. We think the only safe Life Membership plan is a lump sum sufficient when placed at interest, to produce the necessary amount of annual dues.'

"Let us carry this a little farther, for we have had some experience since we wrote our first views on Life Membership.

"If the member is to deposit a sum whose income will pay the amount of his annual dues, why, in a business point of view, is it not better for him to deposit it in an interest paying institution, draw his dividend once a year for his dues, and leave principal for his heirs?

"We now agree with Companion Swain that Life Memberships are impracticable."

Comp. Warren B. Ellis, M. E. Grand High Priest; Comp. J. Gilman Waite, R. E. Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN.

The officers and members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan assembled in the Masonic Temple in the City of Detroit, at high twelve, on Tuesday, January

16th, A. D. 1900, for the purpose of holding the fifty-second annual convocation of the Grand Chapter.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Frank N. Clark, delivered the annual address.

As to the mission of Royal Arch Masonry he says in part:

"During the past twelve months, in my transactions with fellow men, the competition and strife which are so apparent in daily life have more keenly been brought to my notice than ever before, and reverently do I realize the necessity of some mutual union whereby men will in harmony assist one another, and cease to grapple with their Brethren in jealous envy for their own personal aggrandizement.

"In alleviating selfishness, and for the encouragement of public welfare by the nurturing of brotherly love and good will to men, the sublime character of the principles upon which is founded our Brotherhood, cannot but command our deepest admiration."

He thinks:—

"The responsibility attendant upon the membership of such an organization as ours, behooves every Brother and Companion to so conduct his course through life as to ever avoid causing reproach to be cast upon the Brotherhood, and so as to never impair the universally established confidence, respect and esteem in modern Masonry."

In Michigan Chapters have territorial jurisdiction, as witness the following. Then note the trouble this causes:

"One Excellent Companion has, I think, suggested a way out of this difficulty, when he asks the Grand High Priest the following question: 'Do you know of any Constitutional provision prohibiting two or more Chapters from entering into mutual agreement whereby said Chapters may hold concurrent jurisdiction over the Brothers residing at a certain locality where the question of territorial jurisdiction is so finely drawn as to cause much confusion and discord, and where such an agreement would be in the interest of harmony?'"

As our Companions know, according to Pennsylvania law, a Brother Master Mason in good standing in his Lodge and having the requisite qualifications can apply to any Chapter in

the Jurisdiction. Inquiry is made to the Chapter nearest his place of residence asking "Is there a Masonic objection" to receiving and acting on the petition. The Chapter inquired of has no territorial jurisdiction, but its members are supposed to know the character of the applicant and his fitness for advancement.

There is no report on foreign correspondence.

Comp. Reuben C. Webb, Grand High Priest; Comp. Jefferson S. Conover, Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota was held at St. Paul, October 9, 1900. M. E. Comp. Josiah A. Peck, presided, and all of his Grand Officers were present but two (the Grand Chaplain being detained at home by illness, and the Grand Sentinel having died during the past year), eleven Past Grand High Priests, three Past Deputy Grand High Priests and fifty-five out of sixty-one Chapters were represented.

Comp. James Ridler, Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was present.

The Grand High Priest in his opening said the North Star State had "been blessed with abundant crops, and the seeker after work has not sought in vain." He said they had very much to be thankful for.

He starts at once in his address to give a statement of his official acts, consisting of his visitations, decisions, special dispensations, appointments, etc.

One of his decisions which was made the law of the Grand Chapter was as follows:

"Question: Has a High Priest the right to withhold the ballot upon

a petition for the degrees, after the Committee of Investigation has reported?

"Answer: No."

The Grand High Priest's decisions are acted on by a Committee and then by the Grand Chapter which is different than in our state, for here when the Grand High Priest makes a decision it is the law.

He issued dispensations for two new Chapters during the year, and later in the session they were granted warrants by the Grand Chapter.

He granted a dispensation to a Chapter

"to receive and ballot upon the petition of a candidate for the degrees at a stated meeting, for the reason that he was unexpectedly going away for six months on business. The High Priest was directed to give one day's notice to all members in the city of such intended action."

but refused a request for

"permission to ballot on the petition of three candidates at a special special meeting to be held three days after their petitions were received."

He notes the appointment of Comp. William L. Gorgas of Harrisburg, as Representative of the Grand Chapter of Minnesota, near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

The Grand Sentinel, Comp. Jean C. Fischer, died on September 12, 1900. He had served as Tyler for the Grand Lodge and the other Masonic bodies since 1881.

The Grand High Priest closes his address as follows:

"Companions, my official duties are nearly ended. Before closing this brief record of my official acts for the past year I wish to say that I shall ever feel grateful for the high honor you have conferred upon me, and while realizing that I have not done as much as I had hoped to do in the interests of Capitular Masonry in Minnesota, I hope that my labors have not been wholly in vain. My thanks are due to all of you for the great kindness shown me, especially to the Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion Swanstrom, who has ever been ready to help and advise. Grand Secretary Montgomery has also been always ready and willing to assist

and advise me, and to his efficient labors much of the success of the past year is due. And now may the Great I Am shower His blessings upon us all, and guide us in our deliberations for the good of the Royal Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction."

We take the following from the report of the Grand Secretary:

Exalted	362
Joined	85
Restored	20
Withdrawn	87
Stricken from the Roll	79
Died	41
Present membership	5255
Net gain	259

The Grand Treasurer reported a balance in his hands of \$7,310.29.

There is not much in their proceedings of general interest outside their own jurisdiction, although their convocation was an interesting one for the Companions in Minnesota. The proceedings have a fine phototype of Grand High Priest Peck as a frontispiece.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is by Comp. Thomas Montgomery, the Grand Secretary, and is his eleventh annual report, and comprises nearly sixty pages.

It is the first report of Comp. Montgomery's that we have had an opportunity of reading, for Minnesota was assigned to Comp. J. Simpson Africa for years past, but that able writer died during the past year. He was one of the most prominent and popular Masons in Pennsylvania. His work for this year has been divided among the remaining members of the Committee.

Pennsylvania receives a fraternal review of about four pages. He has made copious extracts from our proceedings, and says

the work of the Committee on Correspondence "was well done."

He refers to Comp. Henderson's argument against public installations and says:

"Personally we do not encourage them, but when the attendance is limited to the personal friends of the members, and followed by a good social time, we can see no harm to the Craft. If the motive, as asserted, was only to advertise Masonry in the hope of obtaining candidates, or through vanity to show off handsome regalia, we would certainly disapprove."

We don't make laws in Pennsylvania for other Grand Chapters, but so far as our own is concerned, there will never, we feel sure, be a public installation of Chapter officers.

Comp. Montgomery's report is an interesting one from beginning to end.

Comp. Andrew P. Swanstrom of St. Paul, was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. Thomas Montgomery, re-elected Grand Secretary.

J. L. L.

MISSISSIPPI.

The Fifty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Mississippi, was held at Meridian, February 20, 1900.

The volume of proceedings contains as a frontispiece a portrait of M. E. Thomas B. Franklin, Grand High Priest.

When the Grand High Priest called the Grand Chapter to order all the Grand Officers excepting two (the Grand Master of the Third Vail and the Grand Sentinel) were present, besides ten Past Grand High Priests and "a constitutional number" of duly accredited representatives of subordinate Chapters.

Past Grand High Priest S. C. Conley, representing the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was present.

In opening his address the Grand High Priest said :

This term, with which we are accustomed to address one another, thrills my heart with its breadth of meaning. It carries with it the recognition of that companionship which binds us in closest friendship. It is the spoken pledge of our oneness of thought and purpose—that thought and purpose, the advancement and development of our noble order, and all the ends and aims it represents.

“There are ties that are closer and more binding, perhaps, but there are none so broad, so unselfish, so suggestive of that kindness of heart that makes the whole world one family, and which compels us as much as in us lieth to lift up the sorrowing, to give strength to the weak, and to ‘help him who hath no helper.’”

“Companions, with a heart aflame with love for you and devotion to our sacred cause, I greet you, wishing to each that happiness that comes to those who are faithful to the vows we have assumed—loving the Supreme One with all the heart, and his neighbor as himself.

“In reviewing the year in which it has been my privilege and pleasure to serve in the high and sacred office of Grand High Priest, I have not accomplished what I would have liked. Too often a multiplicity of cares and duties have thwarted my designs for the furtherance of our order. However, I have done the best I could and ask that you will throw around my mistakes the broad mantle of Masonic Charity.”

Most of the dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest were to “ballot out of time,” and he says :

“I have used the dispensation powers granted to the Grand High Priest very liberally, but I have only done so when I thought good results would clearly justify the action.”

The Committee on Law, to whom was referred the dispensations and decisions, reported (and the report was adopted), that they found the “same in conformity to the laws of the Grand Chapter, barring technicalities, and recommend approval of the same.”

An emblem of the office of Grand High Priest is a "Signet Ring," and he recommended that all

"future Grand High Priests be presented with a Signet Ring, by the Grand Chapter, which may serve in some hour of gloom to cheer him as a reminder of the regard bestowed upon him in days past by his fellow Craftsmen, and in moments of temptation, of vows that came from an honest heart."

The special Committee to whom this question was referred did not agree with the Grand High Priest, for they said that after

"careful consideration we are compelled to dissent from the proposition, for the reason that it would impair the prestige of the original Signet Ring, presented by our Companion and Grand Secretary, J. L. Power."

From the report of the Grand Secretary we find that in the forty-one Chapters reporting there were

Exalted	181
Affiliated	28
Reinstated	20
Dimitted	50
Suspended	22
Died	42

That makes a net gain of one hundred and fifteen.

The Grand Secretary has the following to say of the Grand Lecturer :

"From the four quarterly reports of Companion Spinks, it appears that he exalted fifty-nine classes, traveled 10,883 miles by rail and 637 by dirt road; and that his expenses amounted to \$435.28; so that while his compensation, \$666.66 for Grand Chapter and Grand Council, is a heavy draft on the small income of those bodies, he is not likely to become a millionaire at the business. In addition to the revival of Chapters, and exalting of classes, Companion Spinks has visited and lectured several Chapters, and dispensed the light of Capitular Masonry where its rays have hitherto seldom penetrated."

The Grand Lecturer instituted a Chapter called "Philadelphia, No. 124."

In the list of Grand Secretaries, they have Charles Carey as our Grand Secretary—Comp. Power, it is Cary.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. P. M. Savery and comprises about fifty pages in which he reviews the proceedings of forty-two Grand Chapters.

Companion Savery says:

"Pennsylvania Masons are generally bright and sticklers for inalienable rights. It is mandatory that the warrant or charter shall at all times be displayed openly, not only in Lodge halls, but wherever and whenever Masons meet. There are no *Lodge* parades in Pennsylvania, but many *Masonic* parades."

Yes, the Warrant is displayed in Lodge Halls and that is the only place "Masons meet." There are not "*many Masonic parades*" in Pennsylvania. Members of a Chapter never turn out in procession. Members of Lodges do at funerals and the burial service is performed, but it is not an open Lodge. The Lodge is closed before the Masons leave the hall.

Yes, you are right. No one but a Master Mason is allowed to be present at the installation of the officers of a Lodge, and "same rule applies to Chapters." Part of the installation ceremonies are printed, not all. No obligations are printed, and at part of the installation of a High Priest (the conferring the order of High Priesthood), only Past High Priests are allowed to be present.

The Charter or Warrant of my Lodge and Chapter is only displayed during the meetings of those bodies, and at other times are kept in a fire-proof safe. Our Lodge Warrant is considerably over a century old and is too valuable to be where it might run the risk of being destroyed.

But the proceedings reviewed for Pennsylvania is 1898, and we feel as though it was a back number, and as the clock

has just struck the midnight hour, we will close our review of Mississippi, after stating that Comp. Nolan Stewart of Jackson, was elected Grand High Priest and Comp. J. L. Power, re-elected Grand Secretary.

J. L. L.

MISSOURI.

The Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri, was held in Kansas City, April 25 and 26, 1900.

The Grand Chapter was opened by Comp. Arthur M. Hough, Deputy Grand High Priest as M. E. Grand High Priest, the Grand High Priest being unable to attend on account of business engagements. There were fourteen Past Grand High Priests present, and Delegates from eighty-seven of the ninety-seven chartered Chapters, and thirty-four Representatives of Grand Chapters. Past Grand High Priest Comp. Reuben Barney, the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was present and took a prominent part in the proceedings.

Among the distinguished visitors present was Comp. (or we know him almost better as "General") John C. Smith, the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Missouri near the Grand Chapter of Illinois. General Smith is a Pennsylvanian by birth, and we are proud of his public and Masonic record.

The Deputy Grand High Priest read the Grand High Priest's address.

He welcomed the Companions as follows:

"It is with pleasure I greet you on this occasion, the Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter. We have assembled around our Holy Altar and offered up the 'aspirations of grateful hearts' to the 'God of our fathers, our God,' for the manifold blessings of the past year, and His

goodness and mercy in permitting so many of us to again meet in Annual Convocation to legislate for the guidance of the Royal Craft.

"It is with pleasure that I advise you that we are at peace with all sister Jurisdictions, and peace and harmony prevails within our own Jurisdiction. The year has been a prosperous one to us; the increase in our numbers is gratifying, as shown by the detailed statements and tables of statistics by our Grand Secretary, which will be printed with the Proceedings."

The Grand High Priest said "The Royal Craft has not escaped the *Grim Monster*." Three of their Past Grand High Priests died during the year. Comp. James Brewster Allen, born in Bellebrook, Ohio, May 9, 1836, elected Grand High Priest in 1890, and died September 2, 1899; Comp. Alvin Haynie was born in Winchester, Ill., March 3, 1847, elected Grand High Priest in 1895, and died October 2, 1899; Comp. Lee A. Hall was born in Warren County, Ohio, November 26, 1832, he was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in 1883, and Grand High Priest in 1885. He died December 15, 1899.

The Grand High Priest has the right idea of the Masonic Home, if it is run like ours in Pennsylvania, for he says it 'is an Institution dear to every Mason's heart,' and advises the Companions to take a copy of the Board of Directors' report home, "and see the good that is being done, and realize the work that is done by these Companions 'without the hope of fee or reward' here below."

One dispensation was issued to form a new Chapter, and one Chapter was constituted under charter.

We give below one of the decisions of the Grand High Priest which was afterwards approved by the Grand Chapter when acting on the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the decisions were referred.

"A Brother has his right leg off below the knee and wears an artificial limb. Is he qualified to receive the Chapter degrees?"

"Answer: Section 72, Article 13, of the By-Laws is all the light I can

give you on this question. I am of the opinion that a very liberal interpretation should be given to this section. If the petitioner is capable of conforming to the 'ceremonies of the degrees,' even in an imperfect manner, I should not let that defect be a detriment. Brains, heart and morals are wanted in Masonry more than feet, hands, fingers, etc. The Chapter elected this Brother and conferred the degree on him."

The report of the Masonic Home showed a balance in the Treasurer's hands of \$15,525.53.

"Past Grand High Priest Kuhn and Past High Priest Whitcomb offered the following amendment to the By-Laws, which was read and laid over and ordered printed with the proceedings, for action at the next annual Convocation:

"'Before the ballot is spread for the election of any Grand Officer, the names of all Companions proposed for such office shall be placed on the desk of the Grand Secretary, and by him announced to the Grand Chapter.'"

A rule like the above seems strange in Pennsylvania where no nominations are made for officers. Every one votes for whomever he wants.

The Grand Treasurer reported a balance in his hands of \$13,176.45.

From the Grand Secretary's tabular statement we take the following figures:

Number of members last report.....	6925
Exalted	489
Affiliated	140
Reinstated	52
Demitted	150
Expelled	4
Suspended, Unmasonic Conduct	9
Suspended, N. P. D.....	187
Died	100
Number of Chapters	98
Present Membership	7157
Net gain	232

The Grand Chaplain Comp. William Potts George, D.D.,

LL.D., delivered an interesting address on "The Ark and its Symbolism," which was printed in full in the proceedings.

A photo engraving of the Grand High Priest, Henry L. Bosworth is printed in the proceedings as a frontispiece.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary Comp. William H. Mayo, and comprises about one hundred pages, and Pennsylvania for the year 1899 is reviewed in a fraternal notice of nearly three pages.

He calls attention to the fact that although all the Convocations were held in Philadelphia, the home of their Representative, Missouri was not represented. Comp. McC., you had better attend the Grand Chapter, "They're onto you."

Comp. Mayo quotes liberally from the address of Grand High Priest Jacobs, and all his remarks in regard to him are complimentary.

He writes of the report of the Committee on Correspondence and gives their names, saying that

"Missouri for 1899 was assigned to Companion Africa, and he very kindly devoted eight pages to our Proceedings, and for his fraternal comments he has our sincere thanks."

Before you read thus far, Comp. Mayo, you have no doubt discovered that this report is not from the pen of Comp. Africa. During the past year of Comp. Africa, it can be said:

"He has passed the shore of that mysterious sea
Which has never borne on any wave
The image of a homeward sail."

Comp. Africa was one of the most popular and prominent Masons in Pennsylvania, and his death was a great loss to the Craft.

Comp. Mayo's report, which is one of the best, closes as follows:

"We have just concluded our twenty-first annual tour of inspection

and inquisition. We are now of lawful age as a correspondent, and our hope is that we are at least under the tongue of good repute among our Brethren and Companions wherever dispersed around the globe, who have read our reports and writings during the past twenty odd years. Now that we have attained this important epoch in our life and labors, we are inclined to *stop* and *think*: not so much as to what are our powers and prerogatives, but what are our DUTIES, because duty is with us always. How best to discharge our duty towards our fellowman, in order that both he and we may be happier and better, is what concerns us far more than powers and prerogatives.

"True Freemasonry in all its branches is fully abreast the times in advancement, improvement, progress and evolution for the betterment of mankind.

"With the expenditure of time, labor, patience, perseverance and considerable elbow-grease we have compiled the following statistical table, which in itself contains volumes for thought and comparison, study and information. This table alone contains a sufficient number of facts, when properly culled out, on which one could write quite a lengthy report or paper. We commend its careful study to our readers."

Comp. Arthur M. Hough was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. William H. Mayo was re-elected Grand Secretary.

J. L. L.

NEBRASKA, 1899.

The Thirty-third Annual Convocation was opened at Omaha, December 13, 1899, "with twenty-seven of its fifty-two constituent Chapters represented."

"A Chapter was opened in ample form as required by the law of Royal Arch Masonry of Nebraska."

Afterward, on calling the roll of Chartered Chapters, the Grand Chapter was declared open.

The Grand High Priest M. E. Comp. John J. Mercer, delivered an address, much in the usual form. He reports careful performance of his duties; pays due tribute to the memory of the dead, and that few dispensations or decisions were called

for. It seemed necessary to him to make several recommendations all having special reference to the business methods of his Grand Chapter.

The Grand Lecturer submitted an interesting report, of his visits of inspection, with the general conclusion that better attention, more learning and zeal are yet desirable.

This Grand Chapter mourns sincerely the death of Comp. William R. Bowen, its Grand Secretary from 1873, until his decease May 6, 1899; and remarks of unusual interest were made as tributes to his worth and efficiency. The Grand High Priest in his address, refers to him in words, which we gladly copy :

"No word of mine can add to nor take from him the meed of praise so justly his due. His life's labor is before you, and the monument he has erected by his works will endure long after all of us who stand here to-day shall have crumbled to dust. No person in this Jurisdiction has done more for freemasonry than he. His impress is everywhere where lodge, chapter, council or commandery exists in Nebraska. The high standing of this jurisdiction with other grand bodies is due to his painstaking methods, and his desire to do at all times only that which was best.

"Grand High Priests come and serve a short time as the executive officers of the Grand Chapter, and then pass to the ranks; but the work of our late Grand Secretary went on and on until the brittle thread of life was broken, and he was exalted to the realms of life and light eternal."

The general business of the Grand Body was transacted in orderly and commendable manner. Nothing appears hurried; nothing overlooked.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of P. H. P., Comp. Charles J. Phelps, his eighth report. In general, it is well written and interesting, finding a happy mean between quotations and the expression of the writer's own convictions. In detail, it presents fairly and without prejudice the doings of each Grand Chapter, and treats with consideration most fraternal, the reports of other correspondents.

Companion Phelps is not troubled with any of the parasitic "isms" which afflict Masonry in these latter days, and stands firmly for the "old ways." Companion Hedges of Montana, having expressed doubts about prerogative and the landmarks, is effectually called to account, as follows :

"Skeptical about landmarks, when every master of a lodge, from the making of the above solemn compact and the organization of the first grand lodge, under the modern system of grand and subordinate lodges, acknowledges and agrees that no man or body of men can alter or change a landmark or make innovations upon the body of masonry?

"No prerogatives, when the compact provided that every privilege included in the prerogatives should still continue, and that no law, rule, or regulation, to be thereafter made or passed in grand lodge, should ever deprive the possession of the prerogative privileges, or encroach on any landmark? Friends and enemies alike recognize, and have recognized, the inviolable force of landmarks."

Pennsylvania receives kind consideration, and we certainly appreciate the expression, incidentally used :

"We think there is much to sustain the views held in Pennsylvania of things masonic."

Fully two pages are yielded for transcription of what our lamented Companion Africa wrote in explanation of our Grand Chapter sovereignty and the powers of our Grand High Priests. It was a handsome tribute to an able exposition.

The volume before us is printed and bound in the usual excellent style of Nebraska's work, and presents also a fine portrait of the Grand High Priest who presided at the Convocation.

Net membership, 2,900; a loss of 19.

M. E. Companion James Dinsmore, of Hebron, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Companion Francis E. White, of Plattsmouth, Grand Secretary.

J. H. C.

NEVADA, 1900.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Grand Convocation was held in Virginia City, June 11th, M. E. Comp. A. O. Percy being Grand High Priest. It was found necessary to appoint several Grand Officers *pro tempore*, and six Chapters were represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is interesting because it shows attention to the duties of his office. He recommends modification of several decisions and resolutions, giving proper reasons for such action. No decision of his own was called for during his year of office. As to visitations he says:

"My occupation (miner in the lower levels of the Comstock) is such that of necessity I have been denied the great pleasure it would have afforded me to have visited each and every one of our Subordinate Chapters."

He adds

"The utmost harmony prevails between Subordinate Chapters, and although they have done but little work during the year none are financially embarrassed."

The Grand Chapter had not the same pecuniary advantage. The Finance Committee was called upon to face a probable deficit, and therefore recommended an assessment of fifty cents per capita. But even in this condition they felt able to pay for a Correspondence Report.

Comp. A. D. Bird presents for the fourth time that Report. It covers about seventy-two pages; is tersely, crisply written, quoting largely and commenting briefly. It possesses interest, and we feel satisfied that he wishes to do even justice to all. He has our thanks for the kind allusion to our now deceased associate, Companion Africa. Our brother was a careful investigator

along the lines of Masonic inquiry, and it is but just that deference should be paid to the results of his labors.

Seven Chapters in Nevada, 292 members; lost, 16.

M. E. Companion M. A. Murphy, Carson City, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Companion C. A. Noteware, Carson City, Grand Secretary.

J. H. C.

NEW BRUNSWICK, 1900.

August 29th last witnessed the "Thirteenth Annual Convocation" of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Brunswick, at the City of St. John. M. E. John A. Watson, Grand High Priest presided and eight Chapters were represented.

A dispensation was reported, authorizing the opening of a new Chapter at Sussex, and remarks, generally favorable were made of several visitations. The address calls up the subject of Ritual, because "Grand Chapter has never as yet formally adopted" one, nothing having been done in that respect since 1893.

The report of the Grand Secretary, shows, receipts from seven Chapters, \$185.40; increase of members, 41; losses, 37; a gain of four. The total membership is 458. The Financial Statement was favorable, showing a credit balance of \$376.55.

Important parts of the business of this Grand Chapter are settled by an Executive Committee, which meets quarterly, and reports its proceedings to the Grand Body.

There is no report on Correspondence, nor any provision made for it. From the proceedings of "the Grand Council of Anointed High Priests" we extract the following, which presents some information, and one statement, at least, which

will sound strangely in the ears of our Pennsylvania Companions.

"The President addressed Grand Chapter as follows:

"In the early days of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Brunswick, Capitular Masonry was conducted on Scottish lines; but when a few years ago Grand Chapter, as you are all aware, by an almost unanimous vote adopted the American Ritual, so as to be more in harmony with the system which prevails in the cities and districts of the United States of America, this necessitated the organization of a 'Grand Council of Anointed High Priests of the Province of New Brunswick,' for throughout the neighboring Republic no official visitation can be made to the Grand Chapter of a State of the Union unless the High Priest has been duly received and anointed a High Priest after the Order of Melchisedech. This, we are informed, is an office, the highest elevation within the power of the Companions of a Subordinate Chapter, and I sincerely trust every High Priest of a Chapter in this Jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Brunswick may see to it that he is in a position to visit any Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the United States of America, and there of right enjoy in the fullest manner the cordial reception which, I feel assured, our beloved companions across the line will be only too delighted to bestow. The two English speaking nations are working in complete concord for the better advancement of true Christianity over the whole world."

M. E. Companion John A. Watson, St. John (re-elected),
Grand High Priest.

R. E. Companion William B. Wallace, St. John, Grand
Secretary.

J. H. C.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Eighty-first Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire, was held at Concord, May 15, 1900.

Charles H. Webster, M. E. Grand High Priest was in the chair, ten Past Grand High Priests were present and eighteen Chapters were represented. Companion Samuel Condon,

Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was present.

In beginning his address the Grand High Priest said the subordinate Chapters had experienced a healthy growth and so far as he knew there were no troubles or dissensions among them. He then paid a tribute to the dead of their Grand Chapter.

He notes the fact that he had appointed Companion Robert J. Linden, Representative near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

On account of the inability of the Grand Secretary to perform the duties of his office he appointed E. Companion Frank D. Woodbury acting Grand Secretary.

Among the dispensations issued was one that seems very strange to a Pennsylvania Royal Arch Mason. It was for a Chapter to appear in their Chapter clothing at a Masonic ball limited to Masons and ladies.

The volume of proceedings also contains an account of a special convocation held for the purpose of exemplifying the work and the Grand High Priest had the following to say in regard to the meeting:

"As at former meetings of a similar nature, several of the Chapters which are in the greatest need of the help they might receive, were not represented at the convocation; otherwise the attendance was all that could be desired, and better than I had dared expect it would be. There were present 36 Past High Priests from 11 Chapters; 14 Representatives of Grand Chapters, and 43 officers representing 17 Chapters. There were 167 present from New Hampshire Chapters, two from Vermont, two from Maine, two from Massachusetts and one from New York."

He concluded his address as follows:

"Companions, I am soon to surrender the trust confided to me two years ago. For fourteen years I have been connected with this Grand Chapter as an officer and have formed many friendships. In the seven years that I have been one of the visiting officers I have officially visited each

Chapter once or more, and have thoroughly enjoyed meeting the Companions in their masonic homes. I thank the officers of this Grand Body who have assisted me so ably during my term of office."

May each member of our beloved Order

"Be endowed with every good and perfect gift while traveling the rugged path of life, and finally be admitted within the veil of heaven to the full enjoyment of life eternal."

The Grand Treasurer reports a balance in the treasury of \$280.35.

From the report of the Committee on Chapters and Returns we take the following:

Number of Chapters.....	25
Membership 1899	3594
Admitted	142
Restored	3
Dimitted	24
Died	57
Suspended	12
Membership 1900	3646
Increase	52

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Companion A. S. Wait, and comprises nearly one hundred pages. He prints several of Grand High Priest Jacobs' decisions on account of their being of general interest. In regard to what Companion Jacobs said of the history of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania and it being the oldest Grand Chapter in America Companion Wait says:

"Having a few years since had occasion to make some examination of the early history of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania, we are fully aware of the justness of the following paragraph."

Companion Wait's report is fully as interesting and instructive as those of former years and he concludes it as follows:

"Our survey of the year presents the Capitular world in a condition

of general harmony and prevailing prosperity for which there is hardly a precedent in its history of former years. Fewer decisions upon controverted points of Capitular law are reported than in former corresponding periods. Not a controversy of any serious import appears to have arisen, and Committees on Grievances and Appeals have in all but very few cases reported nothing for their consideration. The financial exhibit has generally been sound and prosperous, and contributions from Grand Chapter treasuries to benevolent and charitable objects have been in excess of former years."

"The Craft in general can congratulate itself upon a growing state of prosperity and a marked success in the forwarding of the great and beneficent objects of the Masonic Fraternity. With this encouraging outlook for the future we submit our work to the inspection of our Companions."

Companion Franklin A. Rawson of Newport was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Frank Dana Woodbury of Concord, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

The Forty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of New Jersey, was held in Trenton, May 9, 1900.

M. E. Companion Levi G. Bliss, Grand High Priest presided, thirteen Past Grand High Priests were present and thirty-four subordinate Chapters were represented. Companion Henry S. Haines, Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was also present. The Grand Representatives were received as one of the first duties of the meeting and afterwards a half dozen distinguished Royal Arch Masons from the Grand Chapter of New York, were announced and received and the courtesies of Royal Arch Masonry duly extended.

A letter was read from Companion Michael W. Jacobs, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, regretting that he could not be present.

The Grand High Priest afterward welcoming the Companion said :

"We have assembled to-day in conformity to custom and requirement to review the labors of the past year, and deliberate upon matters for the interest and welfare of Capitular Masonry, as well as to mingle together, exchange greetings, and renew the fraternal ties that bind us.

"It is gratifying to see such a goodly number present—it conveys to my mind the assurance that true love for the welfare of the Royal Craft dwells in our hearts.

"The teachings of Capitular Masonry remain, and as you are conversant with them it is unnecessary for me to trespass upon your time by reiteration.

"While my duties as Grand High Priest have not been arduous, yet much time and attention have been absorbed; all of which has been a pleasure."

He then paid a tribute to the memory of Past Grand High Priest Comp. James H. Durand.

The Grand High Priest makes a full report of his official acts and says that all questions that had been asked him for official reply were answered by reference to the Digest and General Regulations, hence he had no occasion to render decisions.

He had a busy year and closed his address by thanking the Past Grand Officers and the Grand Secretary for their assistance and advice during the year.

The report of the Grand Treasurer showed a balance in the treasury of \$1,769.47

The Grand Trustees report that they have a fund on hand amounting to \$2,774.90.

We take the following extract from the tabular statement prepared by the Grand Secretary:

Exalted	234
Reinstated	16
Affiliated	44
Dimitted	58

Died	65
Suspended	108
Expelled	1
Number of members	3483

The following account is given in the proceedings of a presentation to the popular Grand Secretary, George B. Edwards:

"Companion Thomas H. R. Redway, Past Grand High Priest, delivered a characteristic address upon the Influence of Masonry. In his conclusion he made special reference to the Grand Secretary, the years of faithful and intelligent service of Companion George B. Edwards, his zeal and fidelity for the institution, regard and appreciation of its tenets and symbolisms. Continuing, he assured Companion Edwards that he had longed for the present opportunity to give this expression of general opinion of the estimable qualities that had endeared him to the Craft. They, in loving appreciation of his Masonic influence, exemplified by many kindly acts and valuable services rendered, desired him to accept a testimonial of their esteem and fraternal regard.

"(At this time a table was placed by the side of Companion Edwards on which was a silver loving-cup of chaste design and an oak chest containing seven dozen pieces of silver tableware.)

"The surprise was complete, and, overcome by emotion, the usually fluent utterance of the recipient was for a time inoperative. Regaining his composure, suitable acknowledgments were made, and subsequently, in a more convenient place, the cup was filled and passed among the Companions, each offering a toast of cheer and expressions of good wishes for the veteran recipient."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted a report recognizing the Grand Chapter of New Mexico. The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is written by M. E. Comp. Charles Belcher who takes the place of E. Comp. George B. Edwards as Chairman of the Committee. He starts his report as follows:

"The Committee on Foreign Correspondence herewith present their report covering a review of the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Jurisdictions, as per the following list.

"The retirement of the Chairman of the Committee from the post of

honor is to us a matter of sincere regret, and doubtless will be to his friends, who for past years have looked forward to and read with pleasure and profit his interesting productions.

"To emphasize the system of representatives, we have placed the names of these honored Companions at the head of the review of each Jurisdiction, noting their presence or absence. The position is an honorable one, and the incumbent who does not appreciate the appointment sufficiently to present himself at the Annual Convocations should be removed, and more faithful and appreciative Companions selected. The trouble arises, in many cases, from the appointment of personal friends without reference to their active interest either in Grand or Subordinate Chapters. The remedy is of easy attainment.

"In the preparation of this report we have endeavored to place before you what others think, not, as a rule, our individual opinion of what has passed our inspection, and submit the result for your consideration."

Companion Belcher gives Pennsylvania a fraternal notice and quotes part of what Grand High Priest Jacobs said to the question of jurisdiction for the purpose of "presenting views that will seem new to many of our Companions."

He has the following to say in regard to the report on Foreign Correspondence:

"The report on Foreign Correspondence is the joint production of a Committee of five, of which Companion Matthias H. Henderson, P. G. H. P., is Chairman. It covers a review of the proceedings of fifty-four Jurisdictions. As an introduction, we find a statement as to their Proceedings in suspension for non-payment of dues, identically the same as our own. In the matter of reinstatement, however, we are more charitable, restoring by a majority vote. This introduction is brought forth by discussion of their methods in certain quarters, and we presume the guns will be double shot when they are trained upon this plain, straightforward statement."

Don't be afraid, Companion Belcher, of the guns being turned on you because you are more charitable. Anytime within a year a member suspended for non-payment of dues can be reinstated by a two-thirds vote, and surely if he is a fit kind of a Companion to reinstate he can easily get that many.

We take the following paragraph in regard to our report:

"Under Maine, the writer refers to the subjects of cipher, public installation, age of the Grand Lodge, and enters into an exhaustive article on public ceremonials, which proves to be not only interesting reading, but of much value as Masonic history; while it is written to inform Companion Drummond of the basis of their contention, we think they will be eagerly digested by all who have the opportunity of perusing them."

Companion Belcher's report is a good one and contains much that is interesting and their present Chairman of the Committee is a worthy successor of Companion Edwards.

Companion George C. Woolson was elected Grand High Priest and Companion George B. Edwards was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW MEXICO.

This is a new Grand Chapter to write of in our report and we have before us a copy of the proceedings of the preliminary meetings prior to the formation of their Grand Chapter, also the proceedings of the first and second annual convocations.

On October 5, 1897, a number of Royal Arch Masons met in the office of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, and the Companion who was elected chairman stated the object of the meeting was to take steps whether the subordinate Chapters desired to form a Grand Chapter or not.

On February 19, 1898, a convocation was held and the eight Chapters within that Jurisdiction were represented. They were unanimous in favoring the organization of a Grand Chapter, adopted a constitution and agreed to recommend Companion William H. Seamon for the first Grand High Priest. They also recommended other Companions to fill the other offices, and passed a resolution that the Secretary

of the convention should send their proceedings and the petition praying for a dispensation to the General Grand High Priest.

The first Grand Convocation was held at Albuquerque, October 3, 1898, and by virtue of the authority of the General Grand High Priest, Companion W. B. Childers, a Past High Priest, installed the officers. After a resolution authorizing the Grand Secretary to select and procure a seal was adopted and a vote of thanks given to Rio Grande Chapter, No. 4, for their hospitality, the Grand Chapter was closed.

The Second Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at Albuquerque, on October 4, 1899.

W. H. Seamon presided as Grand High Priest, and seven of the eight subordinate Chapters were represented.

In opening his address the Grand High Priest congratulates the members on the bright prospects for usefulness already displayed by the Grand Chapter. He reports having formerly instituted Signet Chapter at Carlsbad on July 26th. In referring to the ritual and the manner of conferring the degrees by the General Grand Chapter he has the following to say in relation to the degree of Past Master :

"It would have been wiser to follow the Pennsylvania system by which the degree is conferred on applicants for the Royal Arch (who are not actual Past Masters), by means of dispensations issued by the Grand Lodge on the payment of a small fee, the degree of Past Master being conferred in the time honored way by conventions of Past Masters."

The Grand High Priest's address is very interesting on account of the historical part in relation to the early history of Masonry in England and other foreign countries.

Companion Seamon says the following in regard to the Grand Chapter of New Mexico :

"My Companions, the Grand Chapter of New Mexico is now an established fact; it rests upon a firm foundation; the building of its super-

structure, by which the world at large will judge of its usefulness and merits, has now been begun; to each one of us belongs the responsibility of closely observing the work brought from the quarries, and we should see that none but good work, true work, and square work enters into its structure. Our numbers are small, our resources are not great, but it is by the proper utilization of resources that great and creditable works are accomplished. Your intelligence, your zeal for the institution are sufficient evidence of your ability to build well. Many of you will have traveled a thousand miles to attend this meeting, and it is needless for me to say that 'good men and true' you have been to come up thus far over rough and rugged roads to engage in the noble and glorious work of building the grand Temple of Royal Arch Masonry in New Mexico. I trust that your efforts shall not go unrewarded."

The report of the Grand Secretary shows the following:

Exalted	19
Admitted and reinstated.....	9
Died	1
Dimitted	15
Gain	12
Total membership	405

The election for officers resulted in the selection of John W. Poe, Grand High Priest and Alpheus A. Keen, Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The One Hundred and Third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New York, was held in the City of Albany, on February 6 and 7, 1900. The volume of proceedings is a handsomely printed book of three hundred and thirty pages. The volume contains a steel portrait of M. E. Comp. John W. Palmer, Grand High Priest and also of R. E. Comp. Philip M. Nast, Jr., Past Grand King.

Their deliberations were presided over by M. E. Comp. John W. Palmer, Grand High Priest and eleven Past Grand High Priests were present and two hundred and ninety-eight Chapters

were represented. Comp. Jacob M. Storer the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was also present.

The Grand High Priest opened his address as follows:

"Welcome, and to all a most hearty greeting and fraternal hand-clasp, and with praise and thanksgiving to the Great I Am, who, in His providence, has again permitted us to assemble in our Annual Convocation, with such manifold evidences of the peace and plenty, and the prosperity and progress which now prevail within our Jurisdiction.

"That peace which abideth with us, as to duty well done, and which is essential for the good and successful working of our Craft.

"That plenty which enables us to perform our cardinal duty to our Companions—to help the needy, encourage the downhearted, and to sympathize with the feeble and sorrowful.

"That prosperity which necessarily follows where peace and plenty abide, with contentment.

"That progress, not only in the outer world, by the practice of those things which tend to benefit mankind, in the promotion of science, in the increase of commerce, in the enlightenment of the masses, and in the spread of a rational liberty of thought and action, but in the advancement of our Order by an increased and intelligent membership, more particularly through its potential influence for good, and to the making of better men of us all."

He pays a tribute to the dead of their jurisdiction, the list being headed with R. E. Roswell P. Flower, Past Grand Captain of the Host of the Grand Chapter of New York, and an ex-Governor of that State. Comp. Flower always took a great interest in Masonry, and at the time of his death, was Chairman of a Committee appointed to look after the interests of the Hall and Asylum Fund.

Under "Waivers of Jurisdiction" he suggests that the correspondence in such cases should be transmitted through the Representatives of the Sister Grand Jurisdictions resident near this Grand Chapter, which would dignify that position, and greatly relieve the Grand High Priest of a volume of correspondence.

We are glad that some one is at least finding something for Grand Representatives to do. There certainly has never been much labor attached to the position of Grand Representative.

He prints part of the letter of our Grand High Priest on refusing a waiver of jurisdiction in the case of some brethren who desire to become Royal Arch Masons in Cayuta Chapter and who had not passed the chairs in Pennsylvania. He says it is for the guidance for all those whom it may concern in the future.

Under the head of Grand Representatives he has the following to say:

"Several changes have been made in the Grand Representatives of sister Grand Chapters near this Grand Chapter. Some of the Grand Representatives voluntarily resigned their commissions, for various reasons, and, some resigned at my suggestion. In the latter cases, I presented to the Companions the necessity of having active workers in the Craft in these positions who should attend our annual sessions, that sister Grand Chapters might have that official representation in this Grand Body to which they were entitled. To each I presented facts incident to his incumbency of the office for his consideration, and, in all cases but one, they acted in accordance with the views presented to them. I am of the opinion that it should be the duty of the Grand Secretary to notify a sister Grand Chapter when its representative fails to present himself at our annual assemblies for three consecutive years, of the delinquency of said officer, and (upon a nomination by the Grand High Priest) request the appointment of another Companion as such Grand Representative. By this means the roll of Grand Representatives called at our Annual Convocations might be more complete in the record of officials present in the performance of their duty."

We think there is force in the above paragraph and a Grand Chapter would certainly prefer being represented by an active member of a Grand Chapter than one who never attends the meetings. We know of one instance, however, where a Grand High Priest refused to appoint another representative because the one they had did not attend the meetings. The Grand High Priest said in case of any trouble between the two Grand

Chapters he would no doubt attend to that for them, and he did not care whether he attended the meetings of the Grand Chapter or not.

The Grand High Priest reports the constitution of one Chapter and that he had issued dispensations for two other Chapters. He also reports having visited forty-nine Chapters officially as well as taking part in over a dozen Masonic events of different kinds.

In his conclusion he compliments R. E. Comp. Christopher G. Fox as follows:

“Of Comp. Fox, I must say that I cannot conceive of a more courteous, conscientious and painstaking official. In all matters of correspondence I have found him to be not only prompt and reliable, but so correct and comprehensive of every detail, in all matters of official work, that it is fortunate for the Grand Chapter that it has such an able supporter and helpful assistant to its executive officer.”

In concluding his address he thanks the Companions for the honor conferred upon him the year before and says he endeavored to show his appreciation by an earnest and tireless endeavor to do all in his power for the best interests of Capitular Masonry in the state, and that he has done so is very evident to anyone who reads his address and sees the amount of time he devoted to the affairs of his office.

The report under the Grand Treasurer shows the assets of the Grand Chapter to be \$8,018.48.

The following statistics are from the report of the Grand Secretary:

Exalted	1442
Affiliated	207
Restored	152
Dimitted	261
Suspended	533
Died	329
Net increase	678
Number of members	21,223

The Grand Secretary says :

"The Chapter returns for the past year furnish conclusive evidence of a returning prosperity, general throughout the Jurisdiction, and with the result that the material interests, both numerical and financial, not only of the constituent Chapters, but of the Grand Chapter itself, show a marked improvement, as compared with like results of the work of the past five or six years."

The representatives of other Grand Chapters were received by an address of welcome by M. E. William Sherer, Past Grand High Priest at the request of the Grand High Priest. It was responded to on behalf of the representatives by Comp. Emanuel Lowenstein the representative of the Grand Chapter of North Dakota.

The following paragraph is from the report of the Committee on the address of the Grand High Priest :

"A careful perusal of the address gives evidence of a busy administration, a labor zealously, conscientiously and well performed in a dignified and thorough business-like manner, and your Committee commend it to the attention and thought of all Royal Arch Masons, in the conviction that it will enlighten and benefit all."

The work was exemplified at a meeting of the Grand Chapter held in the evening.

The Committee on the monument which was erected at the grave of Past Grand High Priest M. E. Comp. John M. Lewis made a report that the monument had been erected and a half-tone engraving of the monument is given in the proceedings.

Following the usual custom the Grand Chaplain R. E. and Rev. James Byron Murray delivered his annual address on the subject of "the less noticed things of free masonry." His address is printed in the proceedings.

The report on foreign correspondence is by Comp. George

J. Gardner and he reviews fifty-three jurisdictions taking one hundred and thirty pages. He starts his report as follows:

"It is prepared for you, and we trust you will find both pleasure and instruction in perusing it. The matter is culled from over nine thousand pages of printed matter sent from all parts of the Capitular world. We have quoted many devotional, patriotic and eloquent passages from officials of the Royal Craft, divines, patriots and erudite scholars from at home and abroad—from our own and foreign lands—cosmopolitan and domestic. In variety and style, therefore, you have that to study as to language, method of transacting business, and general parliamentary or non-conformable proceedings thereto.

"We have endeavored in our limited space to select and collate that which would benefit and interest the neophyte as well as aid the Masonic student and scholar. We trust that we have not spent our strength for naught. Our result is before you, judge ye."

It is prepared in the same painstaking manner as his reports always are, showing that he has given it a great deal of thought and consumed lots of time on its preparation. Comp. Gardner ranks with the first among the Committees on Foreign Correspondence.

He copies the entire report of our Committee of Correspondence in regard to refusing recognition to the Grand Chapter of New Zealand and he adds a paragraph below as follows:

"We have given this report entire to show the conservativeness of this body, and the care manifested in recognizing what might be illegal material, and as a guide for our action when application shall be made to us, which will not be done probably until the General Grand Chapter has recommended recognition."

Comp. Gardner says that at the annual Grand Communication, which was the most important of the series, but thirty Chapters were represented while at the previous quarterly one hundred and two Chapters were present by representation. We can explain this to the Companion by telling him that the election of officers takes place at the quarterly communication

in December and all the Committees of the Grand Chapter make their reports, while at the annual communication in December about the only business is the installation of officers and the Grand High Priest's address, so that the December quarterly is the most important communication of the year.

He copies several extracts from the addresses of Comp. Johnson and Comp. Jacobs, and says of Comp. Jacobs' address that it "is replete with wise council and expressions of firm adherence to the 'old ways.' " He commends Comp. Jacobs for his remarks on printed rituals and says we have always deprecated them.

Comp. Gardner's address is fully up to the standard of former years and is as usual interesting and instructing. We take the following from his conclusion:

"For the present our task is ended. We have reviewed the proceedings of fifty-three bodies. In a general survey of the Capitular world, as presented in the several volumes of transactions here reviewed, we find naught but harmony to reign. The old themes for argument are comparatively dead, or disputants have closed their arguments. Controversies are settled, at least for the time being. A new era has opened and quiet reigns.

"A new feature stands out in bold relief, as found in the reviews of this series of proceedings—that of a great reduction in the number of decisions called for or rendered by the proper officer. The reports of the various Grand High Priests have often stated that no applications of this character have been made, or, if made, were easily answered by reference to decisions already made. Never, in the course of our period as a reviewer for eleven years, have we found so few decisions reported. Some officers have argued that the paucity of applications of this character evidenced a more thorough study of the authorities, such as the Constitution, laws, statutes, edicts and decisions of the Grand Bodies—whether so or not the fact is apparent that many executives have been spared time and labor and embarrassment in this department of their official duties."

M. E. Joseph A. Crane of Rochester, was elected Grand High Priest and R. E. Christopher G. Fox of Buffalo, re-elected Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina, held its Fifty-second Annual Convocation in the City of Charlotte on June 12, 1900.

Companion William R. Randolph, Grand High Priest presided and three Past Grand Officers were present and eleven Chapters represented.

Companion H. C. Atkinson, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was not present.

The Grand High Priest's address was devoted entirely to a report of his official actions during the year, but there is nothing in it of importance to the Companions outside of their jurisdiction.

From the abstract of the returns of subordinate Chapters we take the following:

Exalted	91
Admitted	81
Dimitted	5
Suspended	20
Died	10
Expelled	5
Number of members	787

The report on foreign correspondence is by Companion James Southgate who has written the reports for a number of years past. It comprises one hundred and thirty-eight pages and the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Chapters are reviewed. Pennsylvania has a fraternal notice, but Companion Southgate says that the one hundred and fourth annual communication of our Grand Chapter was held September 27, 1899. We suppose he intended to say December 27th. He says Grand High Priest Jacobs' address is an admirable paper and prints several extracts from it. After copying Companion Jacobs' paragraph

in regard to the Temple School of Instruction he writes as follows:

"This is a method customary in large cities where there is no difficulty in calling together large numbers to make the meetings instructive, but such could not flourish in our Jurisdiction, for the reason that there is scarcely a city within the State that could furnish anything like a reasonable number to attend such a school. We heartily approve of it."

Companion Southgate's report is as interesting and instructive as in former years, and the following is his conclusion:

"Like one who has been on a journey walking over mountains, through pleasant valleys, over streams of rushing waters, by babbling brooks and singing rivulets, tired and footsore though still pursuing, we have for the seventeenth time wandered through the Proceedings of many Grand Jurisdictions. We have met several familiar faces (as it were), all gleaming with fraternal smiles, some new ones with friendly greetings, so that though the way be rough and the journey long, we consider ourselves happy in such company and honored to be thus associated. We find nothing new on this road just traveled. All seems bright by the way. Peace, prosperity and happiness possess all and through it all we catch a glimpse of that friendly regard, engendered by old acquaintance and as we meet each one of our Companions we scarcely know which hand to grasp the hardest or which eye sparkles the brightest. We have given rather the doings than discussed what has been said in each Jurisdiction, for after looking over the fields in passing we find little that has not been made threadbare by previous argumentation and we can afford to let them rest awhile."

Companion James K. Norfleet of Winston, was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Horace H. Munson of Wilmington, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NORTH DAKOTA.

The Eleventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of North Dakota, was held at Fargo, June 21, 1900.

Companion George L. McGregor, M. E. Grand High Priest presided, three Past Grand High Priests were present and twelve Chapters were represented. Companion Leonard A. Rose, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, near the Grand Chapter of North Dakota, was not present.

The Grand High Priest began his address as follows:

"I desire at this time to extend brotherly greeting and a hearty welcome to every Companion present. We have every reason to congratulate each other that we meet under such favorable circumstances as seems to be our privilege at this time. The field of labor in Capitular Masonry during the past year in this Jurisdiction has been an active one. Our growth, in numbers, has been the largest in the history of our Grand Chapter. Our finances are in good condition; all the officers of the Grand Chapter have been given health and prosperity during the year. No word of discord or dissension has come to me during the year, but perfect harmony seems to exist throughout our entire Jurisdiction and the most cordial relations are maintained with our sister Jurisdictions."

Under the head of Dispensations the Grand High Priest grants a dispensation as follows:

"One for the substitution of a Companion to make the requisite number for exaltation, the circumstances appearing to me at the time to be such as to create an emergency to warrant my action. However, I believe that, while this by resolution has been a prerogative of the Grand High Priest, it should be exercised with caution and only on the greatest emergency. Had I realized at the time, what I know now, that this dispensation was to be the first of the kind to be recorded in our Jurisdiction, I doubt very much if it would have been granted. For I can see how this, like some other questions, might, upon slight provocation, be made a source of great annoyance to future Grand High Priests as well as to tend to annul principles which are deeply implanted in the hearts of all Royal Arch Masons."

If we understand this question correctly this is a case that in Pennsylvania does not require a dispensation and the High Priest can request a Companion to be a substitute to make the requisite number.

In conclusion the Grand High Priest says, he shall ever

endeavor to be truly grateful for the treatment he received at the hands of his Companions in the Grand Chapter, that from the time of the first annual convocation ten years before this one he had always been honored with a position.

From the synopsis of the returns we take the following:

Exalted	112
Admitted	11
Reinstated	3
Died	5
Dimitted	27
Suspended	15
Present membership	1004
Net gain	79

The Treasurer reports a balance on hand of \$1,656.80.

There is no report on foreign correspondence and the business transacted, while of importance to the Companions of North Dakota, is not so important to the Companions outside of that jurisdiction.

Dewitt C. Moore of Grafton, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Frank J. Thompson of Fargo, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, assembled in their Twenty-third Annual Grand Convocation in Montreal, January 30, 1900.

M. E. Comp. H. L. Fuller, Grand First Prin. Z. presided, ten Past Grand Z's were present and Representatives of nine Chapters. Comp. A. A. Stevenson's name does not appear among the Grand Representatives as representing the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

The Grand Z. says there has not been any extra or considerable increase in membership, but that the reports of the

various Grand Officers will show that Capitular Masonry is making itself felt in the Provinces of Québec. He pays a tribute to those of their members who had gone to the war in South Africa, and adds, “and to the friends of those noble heroes across our Southern Border who have fallen fighting for the Spread of Light and the relief of the oppressed, we also extend our sympathy.”

He gives a sketch of Comp. John Hamilton Graham, LL.D., who died August 12, 1899. He was a Past Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Québec and a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of that Province.

There is nothing of special interest in his address to Companions outside of their jurisdiction.

We take the following abstract from the report of the Grand Scribe E. :

Number of members 1889	536
Received and affiliated	52
Withdrawn	12
Suspended	15
Died	8
Present membership	553

The Grand Scribe E. has the following paragraph in his report :

“During the year I have been in receipt of communications from some of our Grand Representatives. It is so seldom that a Grand Representative keeps the Grand Chapter to which he is accredited in remembrance that he is still alive, that I think some note should be taken of it.”

The balance in the treasury amounts to \$548.42 and the benevolent fund amounts to \$940.85.

The report on foreign correspondence is by Comp. E. T. D. Chambers, and he reviews fifty jurisdictions making a report of over seventy pages. Comp. Chambers gives Pennsylvania a fraternal review and takes exception to the report of the Com-

mittee on Correspondence in the case of New Zealand. We have forwarded that part of his report to our Chairman, Companion Henderson. He prints a paragraph of Companion Jacobs' address in regard to hurrying brethren through the Chapter in order that they can march with the Commanderies of Knights Templar, and commends him highly for speaking as he did.

Companion Chambers' address is a good one and very interesting.

M. E. Comp. H. Le Roy Fuller of Sweetsburg, was re-elected Grand Z., and M. E. Comp. Will. H. Whyte of Montreal, was re-elected Grand Scribe E.

RHODE ISLAND.

The One Hundred and Second Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Rhode Island was held in Freemasons Hall, Providence, March, 13, 1900.

M. E. Arthur H. Armington, Grand High Priest presided, six Past Grand High Priests were present and Representatives of ten Chapters. Most Excellent Companion Albert L. Anthony, the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was present.

In opening his address the Grand High Priest said :

"The year now brought to a close has been one of peace and prosperity in our Jurisdiction. There has been a marked improvement in business conditions, and all around us we see the happiness and contentment which go hand in hand with active industrial employment. For life and health and the manifold comforts which surround us, let us not forget that our reverence and gratitude are due to Him from whom all blessings flow."

In the course of his address he refers to Providence Chapter, No. 1, as the largest body of Royal Arch Masons in the world.

Possibly it is, for they have 1,177 members, but in point of numbers it is followed very closely by Oriental Chapter, No. 183, of Philadelphia, with 1,133 members.

The Grand High Priest said :

“While there is usually considerable listlessness and want of interest in those Chapters which are doing no work, I believe that this is not a necessary condition. Some means of making the meetings pleasant and profitable ought to be, and I believe can be, found, even at times when no new members are being made. It is unfortunate if Masonic bodies have come to be considered simply as machines for working degrees, whereas they are intended to be the means toward the moral upbuilding of their members, and the promotion of sociability, brotherly love, and mutual helpfulness among them.”

This seems to be the trouble all over the country, for where a Masonic body does not have work to do all the time the interest seems to lag and nothing has been thought of yet that would make a good attendance when there is no work to be done.

The Grand Chapter has on hand assets amounting to \$5,-659.15.

Owing to the illness of the Companion who had prepared the reports of foreign correspondence for a number of years past there was no report given this year. A fact very much to be regretted because the reports of this kind in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island were always an interesting feature.

There is nothing special in the proceedings except of local interest.

M. E. Horace S. Richardson of Providence, was elected Grand High Priest, and R. E. William R. Greene of Providence, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

OREGON.

The Fortieth Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Oregon, was held at Portland, June 11, 1900.

Companion W. T. Wright, Grand High Priest presided, seven Past Grand High Priests were present and twenty-two subordinate Chapters were represented. Past Grand High Priest Companion James R. Bayley, Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was not present.

The following extract from the proceedings shows the reason for Companion Bayley's absence :

"The following message of greeting was by the order of the Grand Chapter sent to Companion James R. Bayley, at Newport, Oregon :

"'The Most Excellent Grand Chapter in session sends most cordial and fraternal greetings, and regrets that the infirmities of age alone prevents your presence.'"

The Grand High Priest began his address as follows :

"It has been often remarked that as we grow older the years appear to go by more swiftly. As with men, so with the Grand Chapter of Oregon. It seems almost as yesterday that we parted, and the echoes of our farewells are scarcely died away ere we assemble again in Annual Convocation—the fortieth! And I think we can truthfully say that on this, the fortieth anniversary, the Grand Chapter of Oregon has attained the prime and vigor and sturdy strength that we associate with that period in man's life. We have safely passed the days of pioneer-hood, lived through the vicissitudes and overcome the hardships attendant upon our early organization; with our forty years we have increased in strength, profited by experience, attained dignity, and have reached a high and honorable place in the sisterhood of Grand Chapters. While welcoming you, my Companions, to this Grand Session, I desire also to congratulate you upon the general prosperity and harmony that has prevailed within our ranks during the past year. Our Grand Secretary will show by his report a very substantial gain in membership, the Chapters have worked earnestly and well, and I am convinced that the new accessions to Royal Arch Masonry are men and Masons worthy of the rank they have attained and the honors we have conferred."

He reports the death of Companion W. C. Crawford, a Past Grand High Priest of their Grand Chapter, who died April 20, 1900.

He reports the dispensations granted, notes the death of Companions in sister jurisdictions, his appointment of Representatives and his other official acts. He made one decision as follows:

"Has a Chapter the right to confer gratis the degrees upon a worthy Brother too poor to pay the fees as required by the regulations?"

Answer: No."

There can be no doubt as to the correctness of this decision.

The Grand Treasurer reports a balance on hand of \$2,016.15.

We take the following figures from the report of the Grand Secretary:

Chapters	25
Members in good standing.....	1401
Exalted	136
Admitted and reinstated	31
Stricken from the roll.....	25
Suspended	1
Expelled	1
Dimitted	12
Died	17
Net gain	111

The proceedings are gotten up in a first-class style and contain portraits of the Grand High Priest, Companion William Thomas Wright, and two Past Grand High Priests, who have died since they served in office, Companion Cicero H. Lewis and Companion John B. Lee.

The report on foreign correspondence is by Companion J. M. Hodson. There, Companion Hodson, we have the M. in your name this year instead of the N. He begins his report as follows:

"We have been industriously searching among the ruins and examining

specimens from the quarries, and herewith beg to present our discoveries. That there is nothing new or startling is because, contrary to the custom, it is the 'expected' rather than the 'unexpected' that has happened. The Capitular degrees are so thoroughly organized and the laws and usages so nearly uniform, that the news from one Grand Chapter might almost be considered news from all. Yet enough has been found which we have thought worthy of preservation to make up a good-sized report. We trust you will read it, for we can promise that many of the quotations are truly interesting and instructive."

Pennsylvania has a fraternal notice occupying nearly four pages of his report. In regard to what High Priest Jacobs said of "jurisdiction," that jurisdiction belongs exclusively to the Grand Chapter and that a Master Mason can petition for the Capitular degrees wherever he wishes he says is a "somewhat peculiar point." He copies what Companion Jacobs says in regard to the Grand Lodge Library.

He writes as follows on the report on foreign correspondence:

"A fine report on correspondence, as usual the joint work of the full Committee—Companions Henderson, Bates, Africa, Lyte and Coddington. Oregon for 1899 fell to the courteous consideration of Brother Lyte. We accept the light given us. We were mistaken as regards the re-election of Pennsylvania Grand High Priests, and discover upon more careful reading that she has frequently kept them in office more than one year. We also note that this time they re-elected Companion M. W. Jacobs, who was manifestly well worthy of the honor."

He makes several extracts from Companion Henderson's introduction.

In regard to making membership in a Chapter dependent upon membership in a Symbolic Lodge, which one of the Committee said was the law in Pennsylvania he writes, "and we are glad it is the law; the Keystone State nearly always sets a proper pace."

He writes as follows of Companion Africa:

"Companion Africa holds considerable discussion with Brother Drum-

mond regarding public installations, and the relative ages of Capitular bodies of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, from which we gather that the Pennsylvania Companions do not now, at least, indulge in any public installations and that they probably have the oldest Chapter having regular consecutive records of any in America, it being Jerusalem No. 3, having continuous minutes since 1767."

Companion Hodson's report is one of the best reports that we come across and the Grand Chapter of Oregon is fortunate in having such an able reviewer. He closes as follows:

"Companions, we trust you will do us the honor to read our report. Remember that even if it is not the best one in the United States, it is all the one to which the Oregon Companions can have general access. We are sure it is better than none. If you read it carefully you will know more than you did before, for many of the decisions and quotations are both interesting and instructive. Our labors have been for the general good, but for the especial use of our own members, and its value will largely depend on the use made of it."

Companion Orlando O. Hodson was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion James F. Robinson was re-elected Grand Secretary.

SCOTLAND.

We have a report of a Quarterly Communication of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, held on the twentieth day of December, 1899, also the Minutes of a statutory meeting of the Supreme Committee, held February 14, 1900, and a quarterly meeting of the Supreme Committee, held February 21, 1900.

At the Quarterly Communication M. E. Comp. W. Ivison Macadam, Deputy Grand Z. presided acting as Grand Z.

The minutes of the Supreme Committee recommending that charters be granted for two new Chapters and one Mark Lodge were adopted. No business was transacted of general interest outside of their own jurisdiction.

At the statutory meeting of the Supreme Committee they recommended Companions for nomination for offices of the Supreme Grand Chapter, naming the Right Hon. the Earl of Haddington, First Grand Principal, and R. S. Brown as Grand Scribe E. The only business transacted was the approving of a report of a ritual.

At the meeting of the Supreme Committee a long and interesting report prepared by Z. C. Rennie, Grand Superintendent of Sydney, of New South Wales, was read in regard to the "formation of the so-called Supreme Grand Chapter, New South Wales."

The only important business transacted outside of the above was a communication from the recently constituted Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Victoria, requesting fraternal recognition by the Supreme Grand Chapter and it was unanimously resolved to recommend that the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Victoria, be recognized and a representative appointed.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1900.

At the Eighty-ninth Annual Grand Convocation, holden in the City of Charleston, February 13, 1900, Comp. Frank T. Wilhite presided as M. E. Grand High Priest. Sixteen (out of nineteen) subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest, in a refined manner, introduces the business portion of his address. The harmony of the Craft (he says) remains uninterrupted. There has been no increase in number of Chapters, and some existing ones

"have failed or been rendered unable by adverse circumstances to perform the full measure of their duties."

But,

“others have been successfully working in the quarries, and the result of their labors will no doubt be felt in the coming years.”

No decisions were considered of sufficient importance to report, and seven dispensations enrich the record—one to ballot at a special Convocation and one to change a Special into a Stated Meeting.

For visitations he relied much upon the active and efficient Grand Secretary, a confidence which was not misplaced.

The other official reports showed a good financial condition. Cash on hand, \$858.15; nineteen Chapters on the roll, and a membership of 649; a gain of nineteen. During the afternoon and evening of the first day (for the Convocation covered two days) the degree of Mark Master was exemplified, and the Royal Arch was conferred “for the instruction and edification of the members, and many Royal Arch Masons.”

The Committee on Jurisprudence, having nothing to do,

“congratulates the Royal Craft upon the simplicity of its laws and the intelligent conformity thereto.”

The Grand Secretary, Comp. Barron, is also Grand Correspondent, and in a lively, interesting way, notices and discusses the affairs of the various Grand Chapters. Pennsylvania is not among the number, which we certainly regret. Comp. Barron is independent in thought and vigorous, but not combative in stating his opinions. Whether agreeing with him or not, we can usually discern that his ideas are meant to be earnestly for the advantage of the Royal Craft. In one respect, however, we must disagree, and that is, in attaching any importance to the question of Grand Representatives.

His observations on those who bear South Carolina's commission, are out of all proportion to the subject. Here are a

few remarks made of Representatives who did not attend the Grand Chapters to which they are accredited.

"South Carolina's Representative was absent, *as usual*."

"We have never had the pleasure of recording our Representative as present. It will not always be thus!"

"If this Companion is tired of his Commission, he can be quickly relieved of it."

"We hope for better luck after the next Triennial and commissions are re-issued."

And more of the same sort. On page 29 of these proceedings, under a misplaced heading, we learn that South Carolina recognizes commissions from forty-six Grand Chapters. On page 4, we find that at the Annual Convocation for 1900, just *sixteen* representatives were present. Would it not be well to look first at home? But after all, "*cui bono?*" The whole system is but another attempt "to introduce the principles of civil government into Masonry," and has not sufficient antiquity to give it even a flavor.

Another statement occurs to us. Under capitular law in Pennsylvania our Grand High Priest may commission Companions to represent *him*, but the Grand Chapter *as such* has no foreign Representatives. Whether in this respect, we differ from all other Grand Jurisdictions, we are unable to say. Nor do we care, beyond the belief that the law-making and judicial powers in Masonry need no representatives, except their own Executive Chief.

We rejoice greatly in the prospects which our Capitular brethren enjoy in the Palmetto State. May there be no step backward!

M. E. Comp. John R. Bellinger, Bamberg, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Jacob T. Barron, Columbia, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH DAKOTA, 1900.

Comp. Benj. F. Ives, Grand High Priest, opened the Eleventh Annual Convocation at the City of Aberdeen, June 14, 1900. Six Past Grand High Priests were present and the representatives of nineteen Chapters.

The address of the presiding officer showed something more than good intentions. Here are his own words:

"On August 8th I issued a circular letter to all the High Priests of Subordinate Chapters, stating that the Grand High Priest wished to visit them personally or by proxy, and requesting them to name a date when (if at all) they wished such a visit. Most of the Chapters responded, cordially inviting the Grand High Priest to visit them. One High Priest wrote: 'We should be very much pleased to see either the Grand High Priest or the Grand Lecturer at almost any time, but it is very doubtful whether it would be worth your while to expend the fund appropriated by the Grand Chapter for promoting uniformity in the work, uponChapter No..... The Chapter is working well under the General Grand Chapter work, the general sentiment among the Companions seems to be that it would be best to let well enough alone, and not to attempt to make any change in the work, at least for the present.' And so we denied ourselves the great pleasure a visit to this Chapter would have afforded us. We expended all the funds placed at our disposal by the Grand Chapter, in transportation, and other charges incurred in visiting different Chapters. We regret that we could not visit all."

And he actually visited twenty-two of the twenty-seven Chapters in his State. Not content with this record of efficiency, he sought further knowledge.

"On April 21st, I issued a circular letter to the Secretary of each Chapter, asking a series of questions. Responses from all but two show of what genuine material our Secretaries are made. Chapters No. 27 and 28 fail to report. From answers received I glean the following facts: In these twenty-five Chapters there are 1,508 members in good standing. Cash on hand, \$7,011.49. Back dues on books, \$4,006.78. One Chapter running up on this item to \$472.50; while Golden Belt Chapter leads the procession with only \$15 back on the books. Other assets, \$11,705. Since April 30, 1899, there have been advanced 110. Seated in chair, 105. Received and

acknowledged, 105. Exalted, 106. All these Chapters but two use the Work adopted by this Grand Chapter. One of these two report that they are 'trying hard to get into line;' the other uses the General Grand Chapter Work. The ARKS of thirteen of these Chapters are not regularly decorated. There are forty-nine candidates elected and waiting to receive the degrees, and twenty petitions on hand not yet acted on."

There is much to be commended in this thorough method, and its more general adoption would be of incalculable benefit. The Grand High Priest ventured but two decisions, and one proved unfortunate, to wit, that an unaffiliated Companion must petition for membership in the Chapter of his residence, and the Committee on Jurisprudence said, "not approved."

The financial condition proved good, Grand Chapter having a cash balance of \$1,077.03. The Deputy Grand High Priest, declined advancement, being about to remove from the State, and after a very complimentary resolution, the Grand King received the Supreme honor.

The Grand Secretary deserves commendation and imitation generally for his correct use of the adjectives which accompany Masonic official titles. The rule, now-a-days is to displace them sadly. No doubt our Grand High Priests, Grand Kings, etc., are "most excellent" and "right excellent" gentlemen, but, it is respectfully submitted, such is not the idea to be conveyed. In many proceedings, page after page, we find "M. E. John Smith, Grand High Priest," etc., etc. Our Companion Pettigrew makes no such mistake. Those who agree with him, will correctly write "Comp. John Smith, M. E. Grand High Priest," or "M. E. Comp., John Smith, Grand High Priest," or such other variation as will attach the initials (whatever they may be) to the *office*, and not to the individual.

Comp. Levoy, P. G. H. P., again presents the correspondence—tenth report. It is up to his usual standard of excellence, which is saying a good deal. He covers all the ground and

composes an interesting report. Dependent membership is still being argued, but he has won his case. "*Stat nominis umbra.*" Pennsylvania is most courteously reviewed, and the address of our Grand High Priest is mentioned as "an admirable paper." Well, we can truthfully say, an admirable gentleman wrote it.

M. E. Comp. Martin G. Carlisle, DeSmet, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. George A. Pettigrew, Flandreau, Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE, 1900.

The Seventy-first Annual Convocation was held at Nashville, January 29, 1900. Comp. E. S. Miller was Grand High Priest and of his illustrious predecessors, eleven were present. Fifty-nine Chapters were represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is brief. His personal supervision was restricted to his own Chapter, because of impaired health, and later on account of a quarantine established against smallpox. Many dispensations were granted, the most of them, fortunately being to elect and install officers "out of usual time." One dispensation to railroad a candidate, incurred the censure of the Jurisprudence Committee.

One new Chapter received a Charter—four Charters were "arrested." And because of a full Treasury (\$2,851.24) it was resolved to increase charges, by paying the expenses of the first four Grand Officers, for attendance at General Grand Chapter; Grand High Priests having been the only ones so favored before.

Comp. Ingersoll still wields the pen, and seventy-five pages of excellent work are prefaced by these happy words:

"In the spirit of one who has traveled in far countries and seen and

heard many things of rare beauty, of odd form, of strange sound, and, returning home, wishes to double his own enjoyment by sharing them with his friends, your Correspondent brings again his gleanings from foreign fields—not a large bundle, but pure grain, bound with common wisps of his own twisting—and lays them before you, sincerely hoping that you may find as much pleasure and profit in their inspection as he has had in the gathering.”

The report is written in a very pleasing style; seasonable humor finding place, as also frequent expressions of poetic spirit. No harsh criticism is anywhere in evidence, and taken in sections or altogether the production is worthy of our distinguished Companion, who withal is so modest, that when accused of being a Past Grand High Priest, protests, “he never done it.”

Pennsylvania (1898) is fraternally smiled upon, and extracts from the address of our Grand High Priest, and from the report of this Committee, are given with complimentary effect. Having given his salutatory, we apply the scissors to his eloquent valedictory.

“Two hundred thousand chosen men, dedicated to the principles of Royal Masonry, striving for the uplifting of mankind, are a grand army, whose promise and potency for good can hardly be computed. But in the foregoing pages you may see an outline of their doings, the story of their struggles and triumphs, and best of all, eloquent expression from their leaders of the sentiments they cherish and the mainspring moving them joyously to live and labor and die for the service of mankind.

“Yet they wha fa’ in fortune’s strife,
Their fate we should na’ censure;
For still th’ important end o’ life
They equally may answer.”

Sixty-nine Chapters mentioned in Grand Secretary’s report;
2,644 members; a gain of 42.

M. E. Comp. A. S. Meyers, Memphis, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. W. A. Clendening, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

VERMONT, 1900.

A well-executed portrait of Comp. Charles A. Calderwood, Grand High Priest, prefaces the proceedings of the Eighty-third Convocation, over which he presided June 15, 1900. All the Grand Officers present, and twenty-seven Chapters (the full number) represented.

The Grand High Priest reports, that he was prevailed upon by four Chapters to expedite candidates, and that no decisions were necessary. The Ritual question is still troublesome.

"I am firmly of the opinion that nothing could be done by this Grand Body that would so enthuse the several Chapters, and add dignity and importance to the office of Grand Lecturer, as having a ritual and floor work established by this Grand Body, something that the Grand Lecturer can teach with full and ample authority."

The Grand Lecturer presents an interesting report. He reminds Grand Officers and Past Grand High Priests, that annual service is not all that is expected from them.

"They should take an active interest in all that pertains to the Royal Craft, assist and encourage their own chapters and especially attend the annual meetings in their respective districts. Nor do I believe that Past Grand High Priests have performed the whole duty they owe the Craft when they have passed the chair. Their presence is of great value at all meetings, encouraging the officers in charge and awakening a more active interest among the companions. At the five District Meetings held the past winter, *two*, only, of the twelve resident Past Grand High Priests favored us with their presence, and one attended the meeting of the Deputies. No doubt all had good excuses for their absence. So also did the guests who were bidden to a certain wedding feast, of which you have all read. Unlike the ancient wedding guests, however, few of them took the trouble to make their excuse! If those in the higher places do not show an active interest in the convocations of the craft, how can we expect the rank and file to do so?"

The finances are not troublesome, the Report of the Grand Treasurer showing \$7,570.47 on the right side.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Doings of

Grand Officers the ritual goes to the Grand Lecturer "with full power to act."

For correspondence, Comp. Marsh O. Perkins, P. G. H. P., writes his ninth report—scholarly, entertaining, excellent. The subjects most frequently recurring to his notice are, the Order of High Priesthood, dependent membership, physical qualifications, remission offers to clergymen and the ritual. All these questions are crystallized into adamant hardness in Pennsylvania, so that we look with curiosity upon this agitation elsewhere. As to ritual, we have never had much debate, and none since the distinguished Committee in 1857, settled what was "the ancient work." The degrees which the writer learned in 1872, are unchanged to this day. Now hear what Comp. Perkins says of that subject in Vermont.

"Grand Chapter adopted a ritual a number of years ago, and all was serene until the ritual tinkers appeared on the floor of the General Grand Chapter. From that time may be counted all the ritualistic trials and tribulations in the Green Mountain State. An effort was made to keep up with the changes by the General Grand of the so-called essentials. Might as well have undertaken to stop the thundering of Niagara. A halt was called, and an effort made to ascertain what the General Grand called 'essentials.' Vain effort! If the General Grand Secretary knows, or ever knew, he has most religiously kept his vows of secrecy. If anybody else can vouch for them, he has failed to disclose himself. Under the circumstances, one might think there is, and has been, great confusion among the workmen. But there is not, and has not been, except in the mad race to keep pace with the General Grand tinkerers. The only 'stability and rest' yet found has been in the ritual adopted by Grand Chapter years ago. With that to fall back on for strength and support have invariably been found peace and contentment. Under the circumstances, it is not surprising that Vermonters have little admiration for the rough, unpolished specimen brought up for inspection by the General Grand from the ritualistic quarries. Hardly a dozen Grand Chapters in the country have approved it. We predict it will be many a year before the number is greatly increased."

Our Grand Chapter and its Committee on Correspondence received favorable attention and complimentary quotation.

We have heretofore had occasion to praise Comp. Perkins for his clear understanding of Masonic law in Pennsylvania. His readers are now favored with another installment, and it is quite correct. For exactness, however, one clause should be modified, and as amended read, "Officers of a Chapter (first three) and Past High Priests may not give proxies, but may personally attend Grand Chapters, and vote therein or instruct a representative (elected by the Chapter) how to vote for them or any of them if absent. If uninstructed, the representative uses his own discretion. Membership, 2,995; a gain of 103.

M. E. Comp. Charles H. Williams, Bellows Falls, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, Grand Secretary.

VICTORIA, 1898-1900.

Pamphlets, numbered 21 to 29 inclusive, apprise us of the doings of this Supreme Grand Chapter, July 25, 1898 to July 18, 1900. Convocations appear to be quarterly, and are held at Melbourne. The business is transacted in somewhat stately fashion, as witness the following account of an installation:

"The M. E. Acting First Grand Principal having delegated to M. E. Comp. Frank Davies, P. G. H., authority to instal the Pro. First Grand Principal, thereupon vacated the chair.

"The Grand Chapter was then resolved into a Conclave of Installed Principals, for the purpose of Installing Comp. A. J. Peacock as a First Principal of a Royal Arch Chapter, in order to qualify him for the position of Pro. First Grand Principal, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter.

"Comp. A. J. Peacock was introduced and presented by M. E. Comps. R. O. Thompson, P. G. H., Thos. Walker Fowler, P. G. H., and F. L. Maillard, P. G. J.; and was then obligated and installed into the third, second, and first Chairs, respectively.

"The Conclave was closed and the Convocation of Grand Chapter resumed.

"E. Comp. A. J. Peacock was then duly proclaimed, and saluted as the M. E. Pro. First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria.

"The Second Grand Principal, M. E. Comp. George Baker, P. G. Z., was introduced and presented by M. E. Comps. Thos. Walker Fowler, P. G. H., and H. T. Tomsitt, G. J., and was thereupon proclaimed, and saluted as the M. E. Second Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria.

"The installation of E. Comp. G. R. Reeves, who had been appointed to the Chair of Third Grand Principal, was postponed until the next Convocation of Grand Chapter, in consequence of Comp. Reeves' absence in the Country."

At the several Convocations, official absentees had apologies tendered in their behalf which are noted in the minutes. Almost all usual business is molded into shape, if not finally passed upon, by a Committee of General Purposes. This Committee audits bills, accounts, answers questions, provides for dispensations, and apparently regulates correspondence.

Owing to the fact that the Chapters now under this Supreme Body were originally at work under four different constitutions, the work has been by no means uniform. A Committee has had the matter in charge and reports finally in "the light of the best works extant in England and America upon the subject." We suppose this Grand Chapter confers only the Royal Arch exaltation, but infer that the American system has admirers.

"E. Comp. H. W. Sinclair, P. G. Treasurer, moved the following notice of motion standing in his name:

"That it be an instruction to the Committee now revising the Constitutions to make provision for the restitution of the Mark Master's degree as a portion of Capitulary Masonry."

"After a long discussion, Comp. Sinclair asked the permission of Grand Chapter to withdraw the motion, which was granted."

"The report of the Committee in connection with the working of the M. E. M.'s degree was read by V. Em. Comp. C. J. Davidson, Pres. Com. of Gen. Pur., who moved that the report be received. V. Em. Comp. N. E. Jennings, G. Scribe N., seconded the motion, which was carried.

"After discussion, R. Em. Comp. A. B. Templeman, P. G. J., moved 'That the report be referred back to the Committee for further consideration.' Seconded by R. Em. Comp. the Rev. E. Rodda, P. G. J., and carried.

No statistics of Chapters or membership.

It is to be presumed that Comp. Lord Brassey is First Grand Principal. Like other "Royalty," he never attends.

Comp. John Braim, P. G. J., Grand Scribe E.

VIRGINIA, 1899.

Ninety-second Grand Annual Convocation, and held in Richmond November 14, 1899. Thomas E. Schwartz, M. E. Grand High Priest. Twenty-five Chapters were represented.

The annual address informs us that "business engagements" prevented visitations, except four; that "nothing of importance" has been submitted; that one Chapter was constituted, and that special dispensations for haste—number not stated—have been granted. Also that a new Chapter at Castlewood started under dispensation, and the Grand Chapter of New Zealand has been recognized.

The Grand Secretary's report is much more than a statement of cash received. He is entitled to thanks for furnishing a statistical table in proper place giving gains and losses, at a glance, so that the reader does not have to spend time hunting through a tedious appendix.

The Treasurer has a balance of \$21.18, but says the Committee:

"You will notice that all the accounts against the Grand Chapter have been paid."

The Grand Lecturer gives full account of very earnest labors. His closing words are as follows:

"Now, in conclusion, I simply wish to say that if the cause of R. A. Masonry is languishing in any part of this Grand Jurisdiction, it certainly

is not in those places where I have been called to visit. Witness the fact that I have exalted one hundred and one candidates during the year, besides conferring the subordinate degrees on five candidates; which fully realizes the hope I expressed last year in my report as Assistant G. L., viz: that this year would show a more decided gain than that then past."

Now, this looks satisfactory, perhaps. But the question occurs, if a Grand Lecturer is to exalt forty per cent. of the candidates, what do the officers of the several Chapters amount to? Would it not be far better, to instruct officers, and not do their work for them?

The Grand Chapter granted a Charter to Castlewood Chapter—resolved to have no more banquets; to purchase Jewels for Grand Officers and to publish the *Methodical Digest*. It was also made an offence in Virginia,

"To make or have in possession any form, letter, figure or cipher of the unwritten work * * * legible or intelligible to himself or any other person."

The correspondence is again the work of Comp. Charles A. Nesbit. Of himself we see very little. The extracts from other jurisdictions are judiciously selected and put together. Pennsylvania is noticed—kindly, we infer, and the closing part of our last year's report is used.

Two Chapters extinct; one surrendered; leaving 38 Chapters, and membership of 2,737; a gain of 27.

M. E. Comp. Fred. Greenwood, Norfolk, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. James B. Blanks, Petersburg, Grand Secretary.

WASHINGTON, 1900.

The Sixteenth Annual Convocation, was held at Tacoma, June 8 and 9, 1900. Seventeen Chapters represented. Comp. D. Lew Paramore presided as Grand High Priest, and appeared

also as the Representative of a subordinate Chapter (No. 15), of which he was the High Priest. While we are not aware of any landmark making one position incompatible with the other, there should be definite rule against it. A High Priest is to a great extent responsible for the actions of his Chapter, and if Grand Chapter should be called upon to review or correct any proceedings, it presents an embarrassing situation thus to sit in judgment upon its own Grand High Priest.

M. E. Comp. Paramore's address presents a picture of diligent work and prosperity. He visited Chapters, giving instruction and advice.

"I have visited all the Chapters and have given instructions to all alike. I have devoted a great deal of time and study to the details of the work, and in a few minor points I am still somewhat in doubt as to the exact manner in which it should be done; but that there should be a uniformity I directed it done in a certain way until future time should find the right. My instructions were well received by all, and in fact I was agreeably surprised at the interest taken in the work at each visit; and it is my opinion, from personal observation, that the work will give better satisfaction to all than its most sanguine supporters one year ago had dared to hope for."

He presents several recommendations to Grand Chapter, among them an official Monitor "the Signet of Royal Arch Masonry," which was approved.

A revision of Constitution and By-Laws, which was carried over, that each Chapter shall file a copy of its By-Laws with the Grand High Priest, approved.

The appointment of Grand Representatives—no action taken and "that the Grand High Priest be authorized to grant permission to any Chapter to hold special Convocations in any Masonic Lodge room, within the jurisdiction of said Chapter for the purpose of conferring the degrees" preceding the Royal Arch. To this Grand Chapter very properly said "No."

Two new Chapters started under dispensations, one of which

received Charter, the other waiting by its own request. A classical oration, covering four closely printed pages attested the presence of the Grand Orator.

Comp. Blalock presents the Eleventh Annual Report of his Committee on Correspondence. As heretofore it is made up of extracts, very little being seen of the correspondent himself. There is more large type than usual, however, and we profit by it. Pennsylvania gets generous attention, about two and one-half pages are taken to reproduce the decisions and advice of our Grand High Priest, Comp. Jacobs, as given December 27, 1899.

Nineteen Chapters, 1,235 members; a gain of 51.

M. E. Comp. S. Harry Rush, Spokane, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla, Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN, 1900.

This Convocation brings the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin, to the completion of its first half century. Comp. Jesse D. Carr, presided as Grand High Priest, February 20, 1900, in the City of Milwaukee.

He reported dispensations to elect and install officers out of usual time, and for one Chapter to continue work, after destruction of its Charter by fire. He found that officers were negligent in being installed because their Constitution allowed the ceremony when "convenient," and recommended change in that respect, and also for sharper collection of dues and better examination of candidates. But the Committee was adverse, chiefly because their Constitution was a new one, and they did not wish to change it so soon. The Grand High Priest presents the usual reasons for not visiting:

"To one who is obliged to give attention to professional engagements,

a year passes very quickly, and I find myself at the end of my term with many things unattended to. Only about one-ninth of the Chapters of the state have been visited, when I had resolved to call upon at least one-half or two-thirds of them. My disposition was good, and the expenses would have been cheerfully *incurred*, but ordinary vocations of life intervened.

The Grand Lecturer presents an interesting report, from which the following is taken, not for novelty, but because it can not be too frequently insisted upon.

“Some seem to be ignorant of the intent and scope of those regulations, particularly in the conferring of the fifth and seventh degrees, permitting practices which are forbidden and many times are repugnant to some of the companions as well as to candidates, and that, too, after having solemnly invoked the blessing of Deity. There is no place in any of the degrees of Masonry for levity, nor anything which will tend to lower the self respect, and natural dignity of a candidate. In none should there be observed a greater degree of solemnity than in that whose distinctive feature is to impress upon the mind a due reverence for the Great and Sacred name. Companions in time tire of the introduction of practices, foreign to the degree, and more than one candidate has been known to lose all interest in Masonry by reason of the introduction of such practices.”

The Semi-Centennial proceedings present the picture of two hundred and twenty-five Companions assembled at the Plankinton House, who after an elegant banquet, listened to addresses appropriate to the occasion. It would be pleasing to transfer some of this interesting matter to our pages, for the historical items presented by those who were actors, are valuable indeed. But space forbids, for where all is so good, any selection is difficult and perhaps unjust. A special feature of the evening was the presentation of a magnificent badge to the Grand Secretary, Comp. John W. Laffin, in “appreciation of faithful services.”

Alas! that the honor should be so briefly worn, for ere September had come our Companion was numbered among the dead. We knew him personally and recognized his great worth. And how satisfactory it seems, that the remarks made when that

jewel was placed upon his breast, were enjoyed by him while living, and not deferred to be spoken only to his memory.

Comp. Swain presents his Seventeenth Report on Correspondence. It is again quite unnecessary to say that it is excellently prepared, is good reading and well worthy of perusal. Our Grand Chapter (1898) has kind attention, and while Comps. Swain and Henderson do not exactly agree, there are no signs of trouble.

In reading this report the reflection comes, again and again, how precious is that Masonry to which our Companions show their devotion by this exhaustive work! For the "reporters" are numerous who use great knowledge and no little time, to prepare valuable matter, which we fear is read by so few. But, are they not paid, says some reader. Yes, financially, all the way from nothing, up to a little. Otherwise only in the appreciation of those who read and understand the product of the brain work, which our expert brethren so willingly contribute. But history will be written, some day, from these reports, and it will be reliable.

Seventy-five Chapters, 6,145 members; gain 39.

M. E. Comp. Edwin F. Gibbs, Oshkosh, Grand High Priest.

Grand Secretary.

CONCLUSION.

The leaves of this report have fallen from our pens as petals from a flower. Far and wide they will be carried, as some autumn breeze might drift fallen rose leaves or whirl chaff from a threshing floor. Yet, however, dry and withered the leaves, or useless the chaff, they grew green and beautiful, serving their appointed purpose until that purpose was fulfilled. Back of the leaf and the chaff, in the stalk of the rose tree and

in the slender stem swaying under the weight of ripened grain, lies the immortal principle—the life that made their being possible.

Whoever will, may absorb this thought, as the plant absorbs life through its leaves and its stalk.

Though the fall of the leaf betokens the end, it is not the very end, as in annihilation, but rather the sleep that precedes the new awakening.

The time of growth, of leaf, of bud, of flower and ripened seed ends and then the immortal part lies sleeping until April rains and the warmth of a new spring hails each after his kind into new activities.

But upon us rests the shadow of the “melancholy days.” No joy of garnered fields and “Harvest Home” enlivens the ending of our labors; for one of the harvesters lies prone as the sheaves he so often helped to bind.

Our circle has been broken. To one of us the season has indeed ended. The sickle once wielded so skilfully lies unused. The hand that guided it with such loving force and fraternal fire is nerveless and cold. To him shall come no new spring of earthly activities.

But we comfort ourselves in the thought that the vital principle, the immortal part, of our dear, dead Brother and Companion lies, as the seed lies, awaiting but the summons, to burst again into new life and beauty.

S. B.

Fraternally submitted,

MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON,
STOCKTON BATES,
JOSHUA L. LYTE,
JAMES H. CODDING,

Committee on Correspondence.

THE GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1901.

Its Chapters, Place and Time of Meeting, and Secretaries.

No.	Name.	Constituted in	Place of Meeting.	Time of Meeting.	Name and Address of Secretary.
3	Jerusalem.....	1758	Philadelphia.....	Third Monday.....	Stanislaus Remak, Philadelphia.
21	Perseverance.....	1827	Harrisburg.....	First Monday.....	William H. Smith, Harrisburg.
43		1826	Lancaster.....	Third Thursday.....	Joshua L. Lyte, Lancaster.
52	Harmony.....	1794	Philadelphia.....	First Friday.....	John Curtis, Philadelphia.
91	Columbia.....	1822	Philadelphia.....	Third Wednesday.....	Charles F. Wignall, Philadelphia.
150	Washington.....	1827	Washington.....	First Thursday.....	James L. Stright, Washington.
152	Reading.....	1827	Reading.....	Second Monday.....	Nevin M. Davis, Reading.
159	Schuylkill.....	1838	Minersville.....	Third Thursday.....	Henry Hammer, Minersville.
161	Union.....	1845	Towanda.....	Second Wednesday.....	James H. Coddington, Towanda.
162	Zerubbabel.....	1836	Pittsburg.....	First Tuesday.....	Samuel R. Caskey, Pittsburg.
163	La Fayette.....	1848	Lock Haven.....	Third Thursday.....	Frank Beardsley, Lock Haven.
164	Brownsville.....	1849	Brownsville.....	Second Tuesday.....	William H. Todd, Brownsville.
165	Union.....	1849	Uniontown.....	First Thursday.....	Luke H. Frasher, Uniontown.
166	Mount Moriah.....	1849	Holidaysburg.....	Third Tuesday.....	Harry M. Henshey, Holidaysburg.
167	Eureka.....	1849	Rochester.....	Friday after full moon.....	Frank L. Williams, Rochester.
169	Philadelphia.....	1850	Philadelphia.....	Second Wednesday.....	John M. Zook, Philadelphia.
170	Delta.....	1851	New Castle.....	First Tuesday.....	Edward L. Smith, New Castle.
171	St. John's.....	1852	Carlisle.....	First Thursday.....	Charles F. Shower, Carlisle.
172	Temple.....	1853	Tunkhannock.....	Monday after full moon.....	Draper Billings, Tunkhannock.
173	Easton.....	1853	Easton.....	Second Friday.....	Edward B. Arndt, Easton.
174	Northumberland.....	1853	Sunbury.....	Tuesday after full moon.....	Jacob R. Cressinger, Sunbury.
175	Keystone.....	1853	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Monday.....	H. G. O. Ramborger, Philadelphia.
176	George Washington	1854	Chambersburg.....	Third Monday.....	Napoleon B. Heefner, Chambersburg
177	Tamaqua.....	1854	Tamaqua.....	Friday after full moon.....	James W. Kershner, Tamaqua.
178	Catawissa.....	1855	Catawissa.....	Second Wednesday.....	Luther B. Kline, Catawissa.
179	Eureka.....	1855	Carbondale.....	Last Friday.....	John M. Stewart, Carbondale.
180	Warren.....	1854	Montrose.....	First Thursday.....	Oliver A. Gilbert, Montrose.
181	Lilly.....	1855	Mauch Chunk.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	Laird H. Barber, Mauch Chunk.

182	Shekinah	1855	Wilkes-Barre	Third Monday	John G. Torborg, Wilkes-Barre.
183	Oriental	1856	Philadelphia	Third Thursday	Stockton Bates, Philadelphia.
185	Lackawanna	1856	Seranton	Second Tuesday	C. L. Van Buskirk, Seranton.
186	Lewistown	1856	Lewistown	Third Tuesday	W. F. Eckbert, Jr., Lewistown.
187	Oriental	1856	Conneautville	Third Friday	Wm. E. Wormald, Conneautville.
189	Mountain	1858	Altoona	First Thursday	Timothy Davis, Altoona.
190	Norristown	1858	Norristown	Second Monday	William E. Perry, Norristown.
191	Solomon	1858	Meadville	First Tuesday	Alfred G. Church, Meadville.
192	Urania	1859	Greensburg	Thursday after third Tuesday	Jeffery W. Taylor, Greensburg.
193	Duquesne	1859	Pittsburg	Second Friday	William J. Carson, Pittsburg.
194	Tioga	1859	Wellsboro	Second Tuesday	John W. Mather, Wellsboro.
195	Portage	1859	Johnstown	Fourth Tuesday	John J. Jones, Johnstown.
196	Mountain City	1859	Pottsville	Monday after full moon	David E. Bible, Pottsville.
197	Weidle	1860	Lebanon	Second Tuesday	Charles D. Weirick, Lebanon.
198	Phoenix	1861	Phoenixville	Saturday after full moon	Edward T. Plush, Phoenixville.
199	Howell	1864	York	2d Wednesday after first Monday	David P. Shultz, York.
200	Columbus	1865	Corry	Third Wednesday	James C. Satterlee, Corry.
201	Standing Stone	1865	Huntingdon	Third Monday	Martin L. Shaffner, Huntingdon.
202	Howell	1866	West Chester	Monday after full moon	Charles B. Lear, West Chester.
203	Allen	1866	Allentown	Third Monday	Henry A. Getz, Allentown.
204	Anthony Wayne	1866	Honesdale	Tuesday on or after full moon	Fred W. Powell, Honesdale.
205	Factoryville	1866	Factoryville	Saturday on or before full moon	Benjamin Goodwin, Factoryville.
206	Harmony	1866	Beaver Falls	First Thursday	L. R. Strobbridge, New Brighton.
207	Aaron	1866	Titusville	Third Friday	John S. Bradley, Titusville.
208	Germanatown	1866	Germanatown, Phila	Third Monday	E. R. Stevens, Germanatown, Phila.
209	Samuel C. Perkins	1866	Meehanicsburg	Second Monday	George Bobb, Meehanicsburg.
210	Great Bend	1866	Great Bend	Second Thursday	Thomas Summerton, Great Bend.
211	Venango	1866	Franklin	Second Thursday	Charles D. Elliott, Franklin.
212	Mound	1866	Greenville	Fourth Monday	John D. Cutler, Greenville.
214	Valley	1867	Plymouth	Fourth Friday	Samuel U. Shaffer, Plymouth.
215	Temple	1867	Erie	Second Friday	George D. Burton, Erie.
216	Zinzendorf	1867	Bethlehem	Second Monday	Matthew J. Schmid, Bethlehem.
217	Allegheny	1868	Allegheny	First Friday	Harvey P. Wylie, Allegheny.
218	Bloomsburg	1868	Bloomsburg	First Wednesday	C. F. Knapp, Bloomsburg.
219	Griscom	1868	Ashland	Third Thursday	Albert L. Laubenstein, Ashland.
220	Fort Washington	1868	Fort Washington	Saturday after full moon	Francis E. Heller, Ft. Washington.

No.	Name.	Constituted in	Place of Meeting.	Time of Meeting.	Name and Address of Secretary.
221	Tremont.....	1869	Tremont.....	Monday after full moon.....	Benjamin Kaufman, Tremont.
222	Lycoming.....	1869	Williamsport.....	Second Tuesday.....	Wm Randall Prior, Williamsport.
223	Oxford.....	1869	Oxford.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	Morrison E. Snodgrass, Oxford.
224	Corinthian.....	1869	Columbia.....	Second Tuesday.....	Luther J. Schroeder, Columbia.
225	Jefferson.....	1869	Brookville.....	First Monday.....	Cyrus H. Blood, Brookville
226	Siloam.....	1869	Frankford, Phila....	Third Wednesday.....	Matthias Coats, Frankford, Phila.
227	Emporium.....	1870	Emporium.....	First Wednesday.....	John D Logan, Emporium.
228	Clearfield.....	1870	Clearfield.....	Third Friday.....	L. K. McCullough, Clearfield.
230	Elk.....	1870	Ridgway.....	Third Tuesday.....	George L. McCracken, Ridgway.
232	St. John.....	1871	Philadelphia.....	First Tuesday.....	William F. Tracy, Philadelphia.
233	Kensington.....	1871	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Monday.....	Joseph Crockett, Philadelphia.
234	Media.....	1871	Media.....	Monday after full moon.....	William Campbell, Media.
235	Occidental.....	1871	Warren.....	Second Monday.....	Robert W. Teese, Warren.
236	Oil City.....	1871	Oil City.....	Third Thursday.....	Henry C. Goldsborough, Oil City.
237	Excelsior.....	1871	Reading.....	Third Tuesday.....	Thomas E. Weber, Reading.
238	Newport.....	1872	Newport.....	Monday after full moon.....	A. Fred. Keim, Newport.
239	Danville.....	1872	Danville.....	Third Monday.....	John W. Farnsworth, Danville.
240	Palestine.....	1872	Philadelphia.....	Second Friday.....	Edward R. Marsh, Philadelphia.
241	Bellefonte.....	1872	Bellefonte.....	First Friday.....	William H. Crissman, Bellefonte.
242	Pittston.....	1873	Pittston.....	Second Thursday.....	Thomas W. Kyte, West Pittston.
243	T. B. Freeman.....	1873	Philadelphia.....	First Tuesday.....	Walter Scott, Philadelphia.
244	Norman.....	1873	Sharon.....	Second Friday.....	John Murchie, Sharon.
245	Abington.....	1873	Jenkintown.....	Tuesday after full moon.....	Edward Bright, Weldon.
246	Warrior Run.....	1874	Watson town.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	Fred. A. Reen, Watson town.
247	Orient.....	1874	Kittanning.....	Second Monday.....	William F. Rupp, Kittanning.
248	Temple.....	1874	Philadelphia.....	Third Tuesday.....	William H. Ziegler, Philadelphia.
249	Monongahela.....	1874	Monongahela.....	Third Thursday.....	John P. Norman, Monongahela.
250	Corinthian.....	1874	Philadelphia.....	First Monday.....	James McCormick, Philadelphia.
251	Signet.....	1874	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Friday.....	Oscar R. Meyers, Philadelphia.
252	Mizpah.....	1875	Mahanoy City.....	Fourth Thursday.....	Phaon Hermany, Mahanoy City.
254	Arnold.....	1877	Port Allegany.....	Second Tuesday.....	James H. Williams, Port Allegany.
255	Bedford.....	1876	Bedford.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	James Cleaver, Bedford.

256	Fernwood.....	1877	Philadelphia.....	First Friday.....	J. Milton Lutz, Llanerch.
257	Shiloh.....	1877	Pittsburg.....	Third Monday.....	George W. Robitzer, Pittsburg.
258	Chester.....	1877	Chester.....	Third Tuesday.....	Edward A. Price, Jr., Chester.
259	Eden.....	1878	Clarion.....	Second Tuesday.....	Henry S. Lockart, Shippensburg.
260	Bradford.....	1880	Bradford.....	Second Thursday.....	Ambrose D. Sloan, Bradford.
261	Troy.....	1882	Troy.....	Thursday on or before full moon.....	Isaac Cleaver, Troy, Bradford Co.
262	Montgomery.....	1882	Ardmore.....	Thursday after full moon.....	Isaac A. Cleaver, Ardmore.
263	Coudersport.....	1882	Coudersport.....	First Wednesday.....	Lalon R. Bliss, Coudersport.
264	Shamokin.....	1883	Shamokin.....	Second Wednesday.....	John B. Savidge, Shamokin.
265	Westfield.....	1883	Westfield.....	First Friday.....	James Masten, Westfield.
266	Good Samaritan.....	1886	Gettysburg.....	Second Thursday.....	Dan A. Skelly, Gettysburg.
267	Coatesville.....	1887	Coatesville.....	Thursday after full moon.....	George G. Myer, Coatesville.
268	Pittsburg.....	1888	Pittsburg.....	Second Monday.....	Archie K. Henderson, Pittsburg.
269	Ulysses.....	1888	Ulysses.....	Second Wednesday.....	Homer K. Lane, Ulysses.
270	Doylestown.....	1889	Doylestown.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	J. Evan Zorns, Philadelphia.
271	Pottstown.....	1890	Pottstown.....	Third Tuesday.....	Newton S. Kinzer, Pottstown.
272	Hebron.....	1890	Meyersdale.....	Second Monday.....	Martin A. Rutter, Meyersdale.
273	Butler.....	1891	Butler.....	Third Tuesday.....	William A. Stein, Butler.
274	Bangor.....	1891	Bangor.....	Fourth Wednesday.....	Robert S. Wagner, Bangor.
275	Kennett.....	1892	Kennett Square.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	P. H. Bratton, Kennett Square.
276	The Susquehanna.....	1892	Susquehanna.....	Second Friday.....	G. W. Gleason, Susquehanna.
277	Hazleton.....	1893	Hazleton.....	Third Monday.....	Hiram P. Kuntz, Hazleton.
278	Catasauqua.....	1894	Catasauqua.....	Second Monday.....	Edmund Randall, Catasauqua.
279	Kane.....	1895	Kane.....	Third Wednesday.....	Norman Howells, Kane.
280	Cyrus.....	1898	Carnegie.....	Third Thursday.....	George A. Carsten, Pittsburg.
281	Monroe.....	1898	Stroudsburg.....	Second Friday.....	Morris Evans, Stroudsburg.
282	McKeesport.....	1899	McKeesport.....	Fourth Thursday.....	Edwin Soles, McKeesport.
283	Connellsville.....	1900	Connellsville.....	Second Thursday.....	John W. McClaren, Connellsville.
MARK LODGES.					
91	Columbia.....	1825	Philadelphia.....	Second Monday.....	William P. Puzby, Philadelphia.
214	Girard.....	1847	Philadelphia.....	Second Tuesday.....	Thomas S. Woodbury, Phila.
216	Excelsior.....	1854	Philadelphia.....	Third Tuesday.....	Charles W. Carns, Philadelphia.

GRAND CHAPTERS IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA.

GRAND CHAPTER.

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Arizona	John C. Bone, Batesville.
Arkansas	William A. Davies, San Francisco.
California	George J. Bennett, Hamilton, Ontario.
Canada	Ed. C. Parmelee, Denver.
Colorado	James McCormick, Hartford.
Connecticut	James H. Price, Wilmington.
Delaware	Arvine W. Johnson, Washington.
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England	C. F. Matier, Mark Masons' Hall, London.
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Illinois	Calvin W. Prather, Indianapolis.
Indiana	Joseph H. Murrow, Atoka.
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Iowa	H. E. Flavelle, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
Ireland	William M. Shaver, Topeka.
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Kentucky	Richard Lambert, New Orleans.
Louisiana	Stephen Berry, Portland.
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Nova Scotia	Edwin Hagenbuch, Urbana.
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Vermont	John Braim, Melbourne.
Victoria	James B. Blanks, Petersburg.
Virginia	Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla.
Washington	Robert C. Dunnington, Fairmont.
West Virginia	
Wisconsin	

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TO AND FROM

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OF

The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter

OF

PENNSYLVANIA

1901

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P. O. Address, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pa.

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THOMAS R. PATTON.....M. E. GRAND TREASURER.

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P. O. Address, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pa.

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366.1

P 3862

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309

PISL-14
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366.1

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